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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

VOL. I, NO. I | Easley, S. C. | JANUARY 1, 1959



Dear Christian Friends:

How well do you know the facts about and the activities of the congregations in the Carolinas? Had you stopped to consider the fields that are yet unharvested in this same area? In this paper, we are endeavoring to relieve both of these situations to some degree. By publishing each month the activities of the congregations; announcing meetings, encampments, singings, etc. in advance and the results of same; by having three or four articles each month by well-known gospel preachers; and by keeping the paper free of hobby-riders mud-slingers, bickering, etc; we feel sure that this can be accomplished. Those who are to write the articles for the paper each month will do so on a permanent basis and will be the only ones whose articles will appear in the paper. Needless to say, we feel these men are able and God-fearing Christian brethren, who will do their utmost to present the pure and undefiled Gospel.

We do not intend for this publication to be a money-making scheme. We are asking only for enough to cover the expense of printing, etc. At present the paper will be sent to the congregations in bundles of 50 at $5.00 per bundle. Each congregation may request as many bundles as they feel they can use in the work of the Lord--to strengthen fellowship and to convert the lost. The price quoted may be changed if cost of materials, printing, etc. indicates.

The young people will be interested in the section of the paper devoted entirely to their activities and spiritual needs. Bro. James Woodruff, Columbia, S.C. has consented to write an article for the young people each month. You are urged to send in any news article regarding the activities of the young people.

This paper will be one that you can feel free to give to those outside the body of Christ. It is our sincere hope that the paper will create more and better fellowship, be edifying to Christians, and lead others to the Lamb of God. Please let us urge each congregation to send us monthly reports of progress and activities, being sure to let us know in advance of meetings, singings, encampments, etc.

Pray for us and with us that this publication be used only in the way the Lord would have it used.

Yours in Christ,

John R. Avants

Jra/pp

Dead, Buried and Raised with Christ

By Burl Curtis

t has been long agreed that the death, burial, and esurection of Christ are among the foundation doc-rines of the Christian faith. The apostle wrote that vhen he declared the gospel he declared these three ruths. "Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the iospel which I preached unto you, which also ye iave received, and wherein ye stand; by which also 'e are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached into you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I lelivered unto you first of all that which I also re-:eived, how that Christ died for our sins according :o the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that ie rose again the third day according to the scrip-:ures." I Cor. 15: 1-4. Furthermore, many in the world have accepted the doctrine that we should follow the Lord in all things as Paul admonishes in I Cor. 11:1, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ", or as Peter says, "For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps." I Pet 2:2. But who among us understands that we can and should follow Jesus Christ, the son of God, in his death, burial, and resurection.

In Romans the fifth chapter Paul points out that where sin did abound, grace did much more abound. God has plenty of grace to cover all man's sins provided man is willing to comply with the requirements of the Father. For fear that some person with an ill-arranged mind might think that since this is true we ought to sin more so that we might have more of Go grace, Paul begins the sixth chapter by saying, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

To be dead to a thing is to completely give it up, as Paul, who became dead to the law of Moses, gave up the law and accepted Christ. He writes, "For I through the law, am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. I am crucified with Christ." Gal. 2:19-20. To be dead to sin is to crucify the old man of sin, to destroy the body of sin, to cease to serve sin. Rom. 6:6. The Romans were to reckon themselves to be dead indeed unto sin. Rom. 6:11. Paul makes it clear that he and other Christians had died to sin and therefore could not live any longer therein. They had died to sin by REPENTANCE. In this they had died with Christ just as God's revelation had commanded. "It is a faithful saying; For if we be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances?" Col. 2:20. We MUST die with Christ by repentance. But just as the work and plan of Christ would have been a colossal failure if his life's story had ended with his death, so will ours if we stop at repentance, or dying with Christ. You might cease from sin today, but still you must be forgiven of the sins you committed yesterday.

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"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore, we are BURIED WITH HIM by baptism, into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Rom. 6:3-4. It is expected that the dead be buried, so when we die with Christ by repentance we must also be buried with him. "Buried with him in baptism, wherein, also, ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." Col. 2:12. HOW are we buried with him? It would be easy for man to insert his opinion here and to say that it is by prayer, by relating an experience, by joining a church, by raising the hand, or by receiving the Holy Ghost, but he would be found rejecting the Bible. The BIBLE SAYS we are buried with him BY BAPTISM and IN BAPTISM. Sprinkling or pouring cannot answer for this baptism for we are to be buried with him. One might as well talk of flying by donkey as to speak of burying by sprinkling or pouring. We fly by plane and we bury by immersion. Note that we are baptized into three things: (1) into Jesus Christ; (2) into the death of Christ; (3) into death. This being true one might as well contend that a sinner could be saved without immersion. Yes, kind reader, you must be buried with Christ. But the life of Christ would have been a great failure if it had stopped with his death. Christ was raised the first day of the week. Your obedience to God will fail if you only die and are buried with him.

"That like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the father, even so we also should walk in newness of li For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his ressurection." Rom. 6: 4-5. "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are RISEN with him through the faith of the operation of God who hath raised him from the dead." Col. 2:12. "If ye then be RISEN with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Col. 3:1. We must be raised with Christ. Some, being deceived, believe, evidently, that when they pass through the waters of baptism that the work is done, but to be raised with Christ is to live for him until death. "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. When one has followed Christ through his death, burial and resurection his Christian race has just begun. He must then be faithful to the end.

Christ died for our sins. We die with him to the life and practice of sin by repentance. Acts 17: 30-31. Christ was buried in Joseph's tomb. We are buried with him by baptism. We are immersed in water for the remission of sins. Acts 2:38. Christ was raised the first day of the week. We are raised with him to walk in newness of life. Can you die with Christ and expect to be raised with him without being buried with him by

with him? Many honest people are trying to do just that. They believe that the sinner must repent and that he must walk in newness of life, but they refuse to believe or obey the doctrine of a burial with Christ

in baptism for the remission of their sins. Why won't you, while time lingers and before the endless day of eternity is ushered in, follow Christ in his death, burial, and ressurection? Then before the judgement throne you can say that you were DEAD BURIED, AND RAISED WITH CHRIST.

Dangers Of The Gospel

By C. W. Bradley

Has it ever occured to you that the Gospel of Christ is a dangerous thing? Perhaps we have generally thought of the Gospel as something that brings only good to man. However, the same Gospel that saves some, damns others. The Gospel, like many other things, will bless us if handled properly, but will condemn us if handled improperly.

What if the Gospel is not preached? It is "the power of God unto salvation". Rom. 1:16. By it "ye are saved". I Cor. 15:2. "It pleased God, by the foolishness of preaching, to save them that believe." I Cor. 1:21. Thus, if the gospel is not preached, the lost can never be saved.

What if Christians do not preach the Gospel? God has no way to get the message of salvation to the lost except through Christians. God has commanded "Go, ye, into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature". Mark 16:15. Thus "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the Gospel". I.Cor. 9:16. God's will is that every Christian be a proclaimer of the Gospel. Today there is a great need for impressing every Christian with the fact that "the blessed Gospel is for all" and that he has a definite responsibility to preach it.

What if the Gospel is not BELIEVED? "Without faith it is impossible to please God". Heb. 11:6. The Gospel is God's power to save "everyone that believeth". Rom. 1:16. "He that believeth not shall be damned". Mark 16:16. There is no way for God to help the man who refuses to believe the Gospel. How dangerous to disbelieve!!

What if the Gospel is not OBEYED? Peter asked this very question in I. Pet. 4:17, "What shall be the end of them that obey not the gospel?" Paul gives the answer in II Thes. 1:8-9, "At the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with the angels of his power in flaming fire, rendering vengenance to them that know not God, and to them that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus; who shall suffer punishment, even eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might." The faith that saves is the faith that will lead one to, "Repent and be baptized . . . for the remission of sins". Acts 2:38. Jesus plainly said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved". Mark 16:16. He also said, "If you love me, ye will keep my commandments". John 14:15.

What if the Gospel is PERVERTED? To pervert means to turn aside; to cause deviation from the right, true or regular course; to corrupt. Paul warns, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach any other gospel than that which we preached unto you, let him be anathema". Gal.1:8. In Gal. 1: 7 he said that there were some who would pervert the Gospel. How dangerous to pervert the Gospel!! How dangerous to accept a perverted Gospel!! "Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God". II John 9.

What if Christians do not let THEIR MANNER OF LIFE BE WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL? To the church at Philippi, Paul wrote, "Only let your manner of life be worthy of the Gospel of Christ". Phil 1:27. Not only must Christians preach the Gospel by word of mouth, but by an example of daily godly living. "That ye may become blameless and harmless children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and preverse generation, among whom ye are seen as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life. .." Phil. 2:15-16. If we fail to fo this, we will be lost.

How are you treating the Gospel? Remember the dangers connected with it. If you handle it properly it will save your soul; if you handle it improperly, it will condemn you. Will you believe, obey, preach and live it?

CAROLINA'S YOUNGEST CONGREGATION

A tent meeting in which Bill Respess of Fayetteville, N. C. did the preaching and Noyles E. Sewell of Wilmington, N. C. directed the singing played an important part in the establishment of Carolina's newest congregation in Whiteville, N. C. Several families living in Whiteville have been driving some 15 miles to Clarendon, a rual congregation and were interested in beginning a congregation in Whiteville.

The meeting was held to introduce the church to the town and the simple New Testament gospel to the minds of the people. Two were baptized during the meeting. Bro. Respess and Bro. Sewell stayed in Whiteville during the meeting and talked to many people of the town about the church. They found them unbiased and receptive. Permission was secured to meet each Sunday afternoon in the Whiteville Recreation Center just north of the high school.

At the first service, on October 19, 1958, Bill Respess taught a bible class on the book of Acts. Noyles E. Sewell preached the first sermon. These two preachers will continue to work with the new congregation for at least the first month. Bro. Sewell plans to enlist the help of other preachers in the area in supplying the preaching. At the first assembly there were 45 persons present.

The city of Whiteville is the county seat of Columbus county, has a population of 5000 plus, and is located on highways 74-76 and U.S. 701. The work is very promising and the greatest need at the present is a located preacher.

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God Has No Grandchildren

By **James S. Woodroof**

The church of Christ is, in so many ways, on the threshold of a new era. Actually, we have already been ushered into this new era. There has never been a time since the first century that the church was so able to do so much. Our number has, in the last few years, increased to the extent that we are now able by numerical influence to do many things with God's help that heretofore the church was unable to do. Our vision is greater; more opportunities are within our reach; we are making opportunities where there are none; the eyes of the church are once more being opened to the true nature of Christianity, and we are strengthening our hands for the work that lies ahead.

But in all this progress, there is a defect. There is a flaw in us the people. This flaw is eating out the heart of 20th century Chrisitanity. Wherever this flaw has existed in the past it has always undermined the church; wherever this flaw exists now there will also exist spiritual slothfulness and decay; and wherever this defect is allowed to continue unchecked, the church's power for good will be shamefully diluted and eventually New Testament Christianity will be reduced to a powerless system of "whited sepulchers full of dead men's bones."

This flaw or defect springs from the false idea that "God has not only "children" in his family, but also "Grandchildren". That is, that justification may be obtained not only by being personally related to God (thus becoming a child of God), but also by simply being physically related to one who is personally related to God (thus becoming, more or less, a "grandchild"). It is true, that in the world many favors are granted to people merely because they know the "right people" or are kin to the "right people". "Not what you know, but who you know" is an oft used expression that indicated that this is an admitted practice of man. But not so with God! Everyone will have to give an account of himself-of his own personal condition. II Con. 5:10, Rom. 14:12, Ezekeil 18th chapter. Yet there has always existed among God's people this misunderstanding i.e. "That a man can be justified before God merely by being physically related to some Godly person!"

The Jew Misunderstood. At the coming of Christ, the conception of justification held by the vast majority of the Jews was basically this: "About all that matters is that I am a physical descendant of Abraham." Examples of this misunderstanding abound. John the Baptizer gives us an insight into the thinking of the Jews of his day. On one occasion after his preaching, John saw "Many of the Pharisees and Saducees coming to his baptism", and he said to them, "Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth fruit therefore worthy of repentance". Then John, knowing what they were going to say, stopped their open mouths with this statement. "And don't think to say within yourselves 'we have Abraham for our father'". He then proceeded to show them that righteousness is a personal thing, reminding them that "Even now the axe lieth at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire. Matt. 3: 1-10.

No doubt Nicodemus also misunderstood. John 3: 1-21. When he acknowledged the divinity of Jesus in these words. "We know that thou art a teacher come from God", more than likely his use of the word "WE" was something like this: "We-the descendents of Abraham; We-the kingdom of God". Could not this be the reason for Jesus' stinging reply, "Nicodemus, except you be born anew, you cannot even see the kingdom of God."

Another outstanding example is found in John 8:37-59 There John records Jesus saying to those Jews who had believed on him, "If you abide in my words, then are you truly my disciples; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Had Jesus slapped them with his open hand, he could not have offended them more. They retorted, "We are Abraham's seed and have never yet been in bondage to any man, how sayest thou, "Ye shall be made free?" Notice the defense that they offered-"We are Abraham's seed." Before the discussion ended, they strongly affirmed again "Abraham is our Father". And so determined were they to hold onto this attitude, that they tried to stone the Son of God. John 8:59. These Jews had forsaken their personal godliness and faith and were priding themselves on the fact that they were physically related to Abraham.

Would that it had stopped there, but it did not. This attitude was carried over into the church, and proved to be one of the greatest sources of trouble. Paul charged Timothy to "charge certain men not to . . . give heed to fables and endless genealogies". I Tim. 1:4. Paul gave Titus the same warning "but shun foolish questionings and genealogies". Titus 3:9. In Romans 9: 1-7, Paul meets the problem squarely by saying, "For they are not all Israel who are Israel, neither because they are Abraham's seed are they all children." But, "If you are Christ's THEN are you Abraham's seed." Gal. 3:29.

The same misunderstanding is prevalent today among Christians. Not that we try to establish kinship to Abraham, but in principle we do the same thing. Husbands are "members of the church" merely because their wives are, and vice versa. That would make God have "sons-in-law and daughters-in-law. This situation however is the exception and not the rule. But the following situation is not the exception, but generally the rule; that of children becoming members of the church mainly because their parents are members. Actually this is natural and is expected, but the sad part is that so often these children never reach any greater depth of faith. Actually their faith is not in God, but simply in another's faith in God", thus becoming God's grandchildren".

Let us not be blind to reality-this problem abounds wherever the church is more than one generation

old. In a survey recently completed by Bro. Pullias of George Pepperdine College, it is revealed that an astonishing number of 2nd and 3rd generation Christians (members of the church of Christ) confessed under hypnosis that they did not believe in Christ. If this be a true indication, what a dreaded malignancy exists in the body of our Lord! We know that this practice of "being the same as mother and father" religiously, is the basic strength of Denominationalism. But how many of us are aware of the fact that many times the strength of the church is determined largely by this practice.

What is the problem? What is the solution? The problem is a lack of personal faith. Too often the faith of us young people is not "in God", but only "in mother's faith in God". A child will believe that a nickle is a quarter if his parents tell him so; and he will believe it until he tries to spend it (puts it up against the standard). So it is also a natural thing for children to believe in God and Christ because their parents do, but that faith must be replaced by a personal faith in God, if it is to be of any value to you in motivation you to service and conscrecation to God. The Solution? Let all of us who have been blesses by being brought up in a Christian home, take care lest we fail to come to personal faith. Let us try our faith by the Standard, and come away with a faith that will carry us through life and sustain us in the judgment.

God's true family consists of those who are born not of flesh and blood, but of God. "But as many as received him, to them gave he the right to become the children of God, even to them that believe on his name; who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1: 12-13. God has no grandchildren, and should you desire to be in God's family, you yourself will have to join that blesses throng who have personally washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

TEEN - AGE NEWS

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2201 New Buncombe Road
Reported by Jerry Craft

There are but a few teenagers here. However, we have three classes for this group. We have one class on Sunday morning. In this class we are learning how we, as christians, might help build better homes and communities.

On Sunday evening we meet again for an hour. In this class we sing hymns, have prayer, a bible reading and sometimes short talks. Our reading and talks deal mostly with our actions and thoughts in our daily lives. The class is strictly infarmal. Teenagers of the different congregations in and around Greenville are welcomed along with any adult that might want to see just what we are doing.

On Wednesday night we have another class. We are at the present learning to read music so that we may be able to sing better and so that the boys may be able to lead singing when called upon in the future.

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SOUTHEAST NORTH CAROLINA FELLOWSHIP
Noyles E. Sewell



On Saturday, October 18, preachers from 9 Southeast North Carolina congregations met together in the city of Clinton, N. C. for fellowship and edification. The meeting planned and directed by the Wilmington congregation, was held in the Sampson county courtroom. Beginning at 10:30 A.M. and lasting until 1:00 P.M., there were a series of reports by the preachers of the congregations represented on the work being done in each city. These talks were interspersed with songs directed by the various song-leaders. The meeting was highlighted by a 30 minute talk by C. W. Bradley, veteran Carolina preacher.

After the meeting in the court house, the entire group drove 10 miles to a near by state park where lunch was spread and a wonderful period of fellowship followed.

Preachers present in addition to Bro. Bradley were O. P. Baird, Greensboro; Nelson Smith, Kingston; Ray D. Fulerton, Goldsboro; Tom Roberts, New Port; Bill Respess, Fayetteville; Bill Wilder, Rocky Mount; and Noyles E. Sewell, Wilmington.

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS

ALBEMARLE, N. C., Box 245
Frank R. Milton, Evangelist

We came to work here in June of 1958, at which time there were only 9 members including my family. Now we have 13 members with prospects for much growth. Our average attendance is 26. Our local contribution averages about $30 per week. We receive $205 per month, making a monthly income of $325. We still need $150 per month to meet our obligations. We are making every effort to raise this amount, since it is very essential to the growth of the church here. I have preached in North Carolina for nearly two years, and two years in the country of Panama. I believe the opportunities here are far greater than I have e er known.

BURLINGTON, N. C., VAUGHN ROAD
Bruce R. Curd, Evangelist

Since I moved here on July 31, 1958, I have baptized 3 and 1 has placed membership. The attendance and contribution are up at least 30%. The congregation has been in the new building a little more than two years. There is an indebtedness of $4000 on the building. We now have a men's training class in addition to our regular services. In the future we plan cottage prayer meetings, a local radio program and other means of advertising.

GASTONIA, N. C., South Broad at Fourth Street
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist

The monthly meeting of the preachers in this area was held here November 4. There were 14 present representing Union and Chester, South Carolina and Charlotte, Valdese, Statesville, and Gastonia, North Carolina. It was decided to make Charlotte the permanent meeting place. The time is the first Tuesday of the month but the place has not been chosen. We have been having excellent attendance and contributions. On October 26, we had 115 for bible study, 135 for worship and a $234.02 contribution. Our contribution has risen from $170 to $250 per week. We have had 8 baptisms since the first of the year. Our present membership is 48.

DURHAM, N. C., 1323 Watts Street
Harold L. Scott, Evangelist

We are happy to announce that the Sunday evening attendance for this month averaged the highest in the history of this year. We averaged 41 during October.

SALISBURY, N. C., 1021 North Main St.
Paul Sikes, Evangelist

The membership now stands at 70. We have just completed the remodeling of our building at a cost of $3500. Three have obeyed the gospel this year. Plans have been discussed for conducting a Teacher's Traning Series.

WILMINGTON, N. C., 215 - 17th Street
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

The attendance of November 16th, which was 101 makes the fifth attendance record set be this congregation during the past six months. Monthly averages have climbed from 60 at the first of the year to over 90 in November. There have been 7 baptisms and 6 restorations thus far this year.

GREENSBORO, N. C. 809 Wendover Avenue
O. P. Baird, Evangelist

Brother Steve Hudgins recently closed a gospel meeting here. During this time 9 were baptized. On October 26, we had a record attendance of 165.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., 2710 Sunset Avenue
William Wilder, Evangelist

Our first service was held in July, 1958, in the Masonic Temple with 8 present. The contribution was $36.00. However, since then we have increased in both attendance and contribution. This year we have averaged 30 in attendance and $75 in contributions. There have been 7 additions with 2 others coming from the christian church. The church since July, has bought and paid for a $4000 lot and have $8800 in our building fund.

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C., 1201 Oakland Street
Roy S. Fudge, Evangelist

My family and I moved here on August 19, 1958. Our average Sunday morning attendance has been 50 with the contributions $115. The church had a meeting in July with Harry Pickup, Sr., in which there were 4 baptisms. This brought the membership to 41. This is the only congregation in this part of the state that is fully self-supporting.

HIGH POINT, N. C., 907 Lexington Ave.
Olan Hicks, Evangelist

The congregation here began some 10 years ago with about 10 members meeting in the YMCA under the direction of James Binkley, now of Montgomery, Alabama. About five years ago it acquired a new building, in which we are now meeting. The congregation grew with the membership approaching one hundred. Due to some doctrinal disputing and members moving away the membership dropped to about fifty. However, the disturbing questions have been relegated to the background behind a common desire to build the church here, and are being handled a great deal more practical now. Our attendance has climbed back to around 75. In the past two months 2 have been baptized and 2 restored. We are on the march again with a full-time preacher and with out outside help.

NEWPORT, N.C.
Tom M. Roberts, Evangelist

The church in Newport has had a long, uphill battle since its establishment in 1920. They were hindered then by lack of finances, no regular preachers, and faithful members were few and far between. However, things are looking very bright now and this church even has hopes of being instrumental in helping to start other congregations in this area in the near future. A steady growth is evident in attendance. Average attendance for the month of October was 97 for Sunday morning bible study, 133 for morning worship and 106 for evening service, also on Wednesday

night 94. These are the highest ever for Newport. Every effort is being put forth to have figures, respectively, 110, 150, 125, 110, and with present results being extended, such will soon be accomplished. Baptisms since January of this year total 20. Restorations and those asking prayers are 14. Others show evidence of soon obeying the gospel. Meetings in 1958 included one by Yater Tant and the other by Arthur W. Atkinson, Jr. Both men, the Lord willing will return in 1959. We solicit the prayers of the Saints everywhere.

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2201 New Buncombe Road
J. W. Davis, Evangelist

After laboring here about three and one half years Bro. Davis and family are moving to Sitka, Alaska to work with the congregation there. They will be leaving on December 29, 1958.

WOODRUFF, S. C., 5 Peachtree Street
Glenn Moreland, Evangelist

The work here is doing very well, but we are hoping to do more work in the future. We are not self-supporting as yet, but hope to be soon. We covet the prayers of all the brethren.

CHESTER, S.C., 135 Saluda Street
Dabney Philips, Evangelist

We are hoping to be in our new meeting house by the middle of January. This brick veneer unit, when completed, will cost $20,000. We plan to install air-conditioning. The walls are up and the floors are poured. Only a delay in securing material can prevent our opening in January. Our membership is now 18. During October we averaged 30 for morning worship and our contribution averaged $72 per Sunday. The Charlotte Avenue congregation in Nashville, Tennessee supports the preacher full time.

GREENVILLE, S.C., Augusta Road, Highway 25 S.
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

On Sunday October 26, 4 were baptized. We continue to enjoy our new building which we have been using about two months. We set a new record in bible study on October 12 with 101 present.

UNION, S.C., South Pinkney Street
James S. McDonald, Evangelist

During the month of October this congregation broke four attendance records. Among these was 103 for morning worship service.

MOORE, S. C., 2 Miles west of Moore Station
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

The work here is going along nicely. Five were baptized and three restored during the month of October. Two were baptized on November 16.

FLORENCE, S.C., 618 Gregg Avenue
William N. Jackson, Evangelist

The work moves steadily along here. I arrived in June and we began to put a steady program of work into effect. We had a very successful Vacation Bible School in early August, with 78% of of the children coming from non-christian homes. Carl Robinson of Nashville, Tennessee and Ernest Thigpen of Greenville, South Carolina have held good meetings for us this year. Since June 5 have obeyed the gospel. We are finally breaking into local families. In october the head of a family of six was baptized. In November a young Lady from a non-christian home was baptized. The church here is on the move. We progress more and more as we become better known in the community.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., 445 Beaumont Avenue
Raymond E. Smith, Evangelist

At the time of this writing we are still in our old building, even though the officals have warned that it would be taken very soon with a notice of one week. Work on the new building has progressed nicely. All the available funds have been used and in addition to that we have a couple of unpaid bills which amount to about $500. Before the building can be used we must have at least another $1,000. So far this year we have had 8 baptisms and 25 restorations. The majority of our members have obeyed the gospel within the past five years. We feel that the church here is beginning to grow and do a tremendous amount of work for the Lord.

WEST COLUMBIA, S. C., 16th at Augusta Street
James S. Woodroof, Evangelist

Within the last eight months (the time that I have been working with the church here) the results have been very encouraging. The church here has a mind to work that excells most congregations. I believe the West Columbia church is one of the finest in the two states. It has as great a potential as any church in the state. Within the last eight months there has been 22 definite responses. Five placed membership, three restorations, and four-teen baptisms - eight of which have taken place within the last five weeks. The immediate prospects are plentiful and promising. From 3 to 6 cottage classes are conducted each week. This is our main source of conversions. The opportunities for such classes are plentiful. Other regular classes are: Young people's class on Sunday evening, average attendance over 20; Ladies bible class on Thursday, average attendance 35 to 40. Our Sunday morning attendance has been, for the last month averaging about 110 for bible study and 120 for worship. The Sunday evening service has been averaging about 100. Our membership is

73. We are in the midst of planning an addition of eight classrooms to our present building. A concentrated "Meet the Member" program of visiting is in progress and is doing wonders for the church.

CAMDEN, S. C., 1009 McRae Road
Sewell Hall, Evangelist

There has recently been a change of preachers here. Brother David Arnold has moved to Gonzales, Louisiana after six years with the church here. I believe I am safe in saying that the membership doubled during his stay. A commodious building was erected and much progress was made in getting the truth before the people of this community. I began work here in September, 1958. My last work was in Nigeria, West Africa. We be- the future is bright for the work in Camden.

GEORGETOWN, S.C., Kensington Sub-Division
Johnny Sewell, Evangelist

The church here is entering a building program. At the present we have a concrete block building with a seating capacity of seventy, and three class rooms. A loan has been secured by the Wingate congregation in Nashville, Tennessee, who is helping to support the work here. There was 1 restoration in October. Our membership now is 32 with 25 considered faithful.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Vermont Ave. at Marble St.
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

The church here was established in 1922 by Bro. G. F. Gibbs and is the second oldest congregation in South Carolina. We are self supporting and have about 130 members. We have two elders who are E. D. McDaniel and Joe Tripp.

RADIO & TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

"Herald of Truth"
WCOS, Columbia, S. C.-------- 7:30 P.M.
WGNC, 1450 KC, Gastonia, N.C. 2:30 P.M.
WECT, Channel 6, Wilmington, N.C.--Noon
WJMX,---------- 2:30 P.M.
WKIX, 850 KC, High Point, N.C. 2:30 P.M.
WKIT, Durham, N.C.---------- 5:30 P.M.
WDNC, Durham, N.C.---------- 9:15 A.M.
WGTN, 1400 KC,---------- 2:30 P.M.
WACA, 1590 KC,---------- 8:40 A.M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N.C. ---------- 8:45 A.M.

FRIDAY

"The Bible's Answer"
WSPA-TV, Channel 7,
Spartanburg, S. C.---------- 7:45 A.M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590 KC,---------- 5:00 P.M.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

"The Bible Hour"
WGCD---------- 11:45 A.M.

TEEN-AGE NEWS

MOORE, S.C., Two Miles West of Moore Station
Reported by Shirley Dill

This teenage class, which meets each Sunday afternoon at 5:30, enjoyed a friendly get-together at the Pepsi-Cola plant in Spartanburg, December 19. Those present other than the Moore class were from the Fairview congregation in Spartanburg and the Buncombe Road congregation in Greenville, which made a total of 26 present. At c r regular meetings we sing hymns and listen to the boys make talks.

PREACHER WANTED

TROY, N. C., Our preacher, G. E. MacDonald has been with us two years. He will be leaving soon for Asheboro, North Carolina. We are in need of a preacher. Our members are few and loyal. We would appreciate any help. Contact J. C. Deaton, Box 233, Troy, N. C.

PREACHER'S MEETING

The monthly meeting of the preacher's in this area will meet, as usual, the first Tuesday of each month in Charlotte, North Carolina. Those who attend enjoy lunch and fellowship with one another. If you haven't attended one of these meetings, you will find it a great pleasure to do so and be edified by our brethren in Christ.

CAROLINA'S YOUNGEST CONGREGATION

IS THERE A PREACHER WHO IS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE OF ONE OF THE GREATEST MISSION FIELDS WITHIN THE U.S.A.? One who can raise his own support or work to support himself? If interested contact - I. G. Hesson, 411 Franklin, Whiteville, N. C.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH, published in Pickens county, 205 E. Main Street, Easley, South Carolina, on the first of each month, distributed in bundles of fifty at $5.00 per bundle. When ordering please send check or postal money order, otherwise, all orders C.O.D.

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER----------John R. Avants
CO-EDITOR----------Raymond E. Smith
STAFF WRITERS---------- T. A. Isaacs
Burl Curtiss
C. W. Bradley
James S. Woodroof

Please send all reports and news items as early in the month as possible. Nothing will be accepted after the 20th for the following month's issue Any news received after the 20th will appear in the following issue. REMEMBER this is your paper. Be prompt with all correspondence.

ADDRESSES WANTED

Anyone who can supply us with the correct mailing address of the following congregations, please contact this office. Correspondence was mailed to them, but returned for various reasons. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Carolina Messenger of Truth

Kanapolis, N. C.
High Point, N. C., Windley Street
Salisbury, N. C., Biscoe
Corinth, N. C., Woodleaf
Greensboro, N. C., Artmore at Bragg
Greensboro, N. C., Ireland at Hanes
Greenwood, S. C.



Brother T. A. Isaacs's article did not reach us in time to print in this issue, due to his busy schedule while preparing to move. The Isaacs' are moving to Charlotte North Carolina to begin work with the Plaza congregation. We are looking forword with anticipation to reading Brother Isaacs' articles.

TRACTS AVAILABLE

HISTORICITY OF CHURCHES, B. F. Miller

THE HOLY SPIRIT, B. F. Miller

THE CHURCH, B. F. Miller

THOUGHT PROVOKING QUESTIONS

THE NEW BIRTH, B. F. Miller

These four page tracts are available to you for 75¢ per 100, $3.00 per 500, $5.00 per 1000.

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One page tract, 50¢ per 100.

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Certificate on front cover. Advice to new christian on balance of four page tract.

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PREACH THE GOSPEL BY TACTS

CAROLINA TRACT SERVICE
205 E. Main Street Easley, South Carolina

Some Thought Provoking Questions

1. Whom do you consider responsible for the dividion that exist in the religious world?

2. In view of John 17, is such division desirable?

3. What differences do you know between the Church of Christ and your own?

4. Is there any practice or other feature of the Church of Christ that you consider unscriptual, if so, what?

5. What criticism do you offer against the Church of Christ which causes you not to be a member of it?

6. What features are there about your church that makes you prefer it to the Church of Christ?

7. Were these features characteristics of the church of our Lord in New Testament times or have they been added since?

8. If they were features of the New Testament church, point out the scriptures that dethem.

9. If they were not features of the New Testament church, would you be willing to give them up in order to belong to a church having only New Testament features? If not why not?

10. If they were not features of the New Testament church what reasons do you have for desiring them?

11. If they were features of the New Testament church, and the Church of Christ lacks that much being scriptual, would you like to see us learn the truth?

12. Do you think the Lord's attitude was wrong when he said, "Come now, let us reason together"?

13. Are you willing to reason together on points that divide us?

14. Do you think it is unkind or unfair for one to try to point out what he believes to be error of another?

15. Or any of these questions unfair? If so, which ones, and why do you think so?

THE HAPPIEST MAN

The happiest man in the world is the common everyday chap who makes his own living, pays his bills, has a little money as he goes along but doesn't strive to get a corner on the local output, and is a slave neither to ambition nor society. He loves his God and his fellow man; thinks "there is no place like home," the haven of rest; perfers the company of his family to that of anyone else; never has to sit up nights to poultice his conscience; believes in the doctrine of live and let live, and, when he encounters one of the needy, he doesn't stutter with his pocketbook. The plain man is happy to be satisfied and does not spend the best of his life yearning for things four sizes too large for him.

THE SCRIPTURES:

1. Produce faith.

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Rom. 10:17.

2. Induce spiritual growth.

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: I Pet. 2:2.

3. Build us up.

And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. Acts

20:32.

4. Discern our hearts.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against thee. Psalms 119:11.

5. Become our weapon.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Eph. 6:17.

6. Make our lives a success.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Josh. 1:8.

7. Convert the soul.

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. Psalms 19:7.

8. Make wise unto salvation.

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 2 Tim. 3:15.

9. Give comfort.

For Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Rom. 15:4.

10. Offer guidance.

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eyes. Psalms 32:8.

11. Supply divine wisdom.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. James 1: 5.

12. Provide an escape.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation, also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. I Cor. 10:13.

13. Declare His presence.

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matt. 28:20.

14. Promises reward for work.

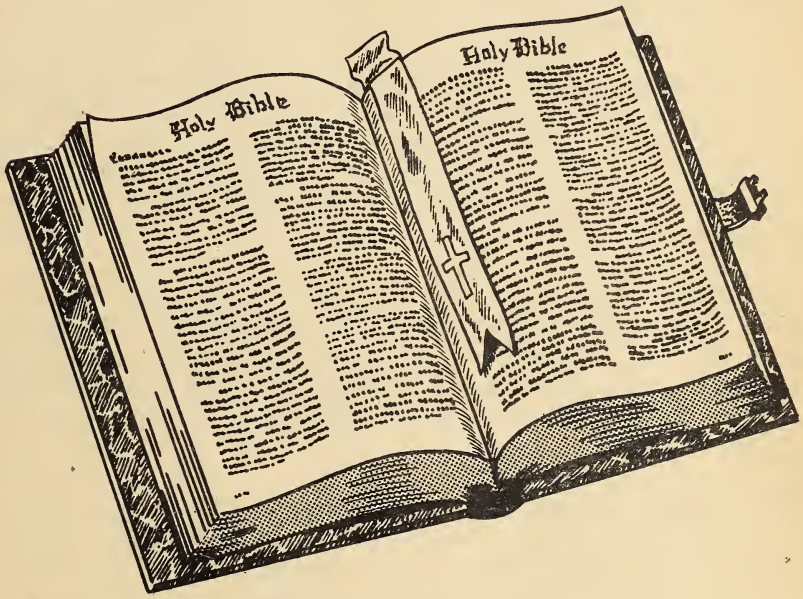
Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded. 2 Chr. 15: 7.

15. Promises a heavenly mansion.

Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. John 14:1-2.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

Vol. I No. II. Published Monthly-205 E. Main St. Easley, S.C. February 1st, 1959



Mark 16

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Dear Reader:

We do not suggest this paper or any other publication as a substitute for the New Testament; but this paper will be a valuable tool in the hands of everyone who has named the name of Jesus Christ. In its pages are many articles by able, God-fearing men; New Testament themes that will direct the Soul of man in the way of salvation, if obeyed. "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest. Behold! I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already unto harvest." John 4:35. These words are just as true today as they were over 1900 years ago when spoken by our Lord. "The fields are white to harvest", but the laborers are few.

It is a sad thought indeed, for so many of us, when we are brought to realize how far short of our responsibility we have fallen. True, we are not all orators - able to stand in a pulpit and preach as some do; but there is just as great a work that we can do. Any one of us can tell our friends about the Christ and leave with them a good tract or gospel paper, that will direct them in the way of salvation.

Paul said that he was "not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation". Dear Christian friends, the gospel has just as much power in the Carolinas as it has in Tennessee, Texas, Oklahoma, or any other place. If you and I will take it to those that are lost. How can we sit idly by while so many are passing on to their reward - a Christless grave?

You and I cannot shift our personal responsibility to the preacher. Salvation is not to be had by proxy. We are "our brothers' keeper". Are you willing to join hands in a renewed effort to carry the gospel to every soul in the Carolinas? We have been idle so long that, after a manner of speaking, the grass has taken the field and the task made harder. It can be done. WILL YOU HELP?

Yours in Christ,

John R. Avants
Editor

JRA/pp

Salvation By Faith Alone

BY Burl Curtis

Many religious people would readily agree that the bible teaches that the sinner is saved by faith. They have the best reasons for saying so. Jesus said, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:14-16. The apostle Paul declared to the jailer in Acts 16:31, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." When writing to the Christians in Rome he said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek." Rom. 1:16. We must admit that we are saved by FAITH.

Yet some, in their eagerness to establish the truth, have said that the sinner is saved by FAITH ALONE. This is done in order to stay away from the belief that the sinner is saved by WORKS. Is the truth between these two extremes and is it true that we are saved be faith when we obey the exact commands of Christ? Now, we shall speak of the WORKS OF THE LAW, the WORKS OF MAN, the WORKS OF GOD.

We are not left in doubt about salvation through the works of the law. In Gal. 2:16, Paul wrote, "Knowing that a man is NOT justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." This question has been settled for nearly two thousand years even though man may just now be learning it. Furthermore, Paul shows that the sinner cannot be saved by the works of man. "For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of YOURSELVES: it is the gift of God: not of works, least any man should boast." Eph. 2:8,9. Notice that the "works of man" cannot save the sinner for if they could salvation would be of man and he should boast. We now have the remaining the works of God. Is the sinner saved by the works of God? Yes. The example that Jesus left was that "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is yet day: for when night cometh, no man can work." John 9:4. It is an undeniable fact that it is the work of God to BELIEVE. In John 6:29 we read, "Jesus answered and said unto them, 'This is the work of God, That ye believe on him whom he hath sent.'" Therefore the sinner is saved, not by works of the law or by any action or work of man in opposition to the Bible, but he is saved by doing the works of God.

Now we can see clearly that the false doctrine of salvation by faith alone has broken down. It could not stand the test of free examination. Is the man who believes that a sinner is justified by faith alone willing to contend that we are not saved by the Father (Isa. 59:1), by Christ (Matt. 1:21), by the death of Jesus (Rom. 5:8), by his blood (Rom. 5:9), by grace (Eph. 2:5), by preaching(1 Cor. 1:21), by hope (Rom. 8:24), by confession (Rom. 10:9) and by baptism (1 Peter 3:21). An honest man will not set himself against the bible so he will remove the word alone.

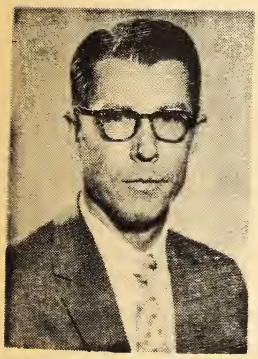
The sinner might offer every lamb in America as a sacrifice and yet not save his soul because salvation is not by the works of the law. He might, at his own cost, build ten thousand church buildings and not obey the commands of Christ and not save his life in eternity because salvation is not by the works of man. Therefore we conclude that a sinner is saved by faith when he obeys the commands of God or does the works of God. James wrote, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justi-

SALVATION BY FAITH ALONE

fied, and not by faith only." James 2:24. By WHAT works? The works of God. He is saved by faith when he repents of his sins, confesses the name of Jesus, and is baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), and continues to do the works of God until death in order to obtain a home in heaven.

Why Do We Fast Oft?

BY Noyles E. Sewell



This question was asked of Jesus by the disciples of John, not because they wanted to know why they themselves fasted but to demand the reason why Jesus' disciples fasted not. At this time of the year, when millions of religious people are preparing to observe the Lenten season by what they call fasting, it would be well for them to ask themselves this question. It would also be well for those of us who seek to follow the Bible only to be ready to give answer to the remainder of the question, "Why do you not fast?" Matt: 9: 14.

We trust that both of these questions will be at least partly answered by the following comparison of Roman Catholic teaching with the teaching of the word of God. We quote first from two publications bearing the official imprint of the Roman Catholic church, not because they are the only people who pretend to fast during Lent, but because the practice originated with them and was simply borrowed by their Protestant cousins.

"The precepts of the church supplement the Ten Commandments by giving further detailed guidance for our conduct. There are six precepts . . . The second precept is to fast and abstain on the days appointed.' By fast days are meant days on which we are allowed but one full meal. The church commands us to fast and abstain in order that we may mortify our passions and satisfy for our sins." (from "The Faith of Millions by John O'Brien- page 489.)

"First of all, everyone over twenty-one and under fifty-nine years of age is bound to observe the law of fasting. On days of fast only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken . . . The days of fast are the weekdays of Lent, Ember days, The Vigils of Pentecost, the Assumption, Allsaints, and Christmas. On fast days eating between meals is not permitted: but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed" (from "Father Smith Instructs Jackson" by Noll and Fallon - page 119.)

It's evident from these authoritative statements that the Roman Catholics definition of fasting is 'restricting the diet to one heavy meal and two lighter ones each day, with milk and fruit juice in between, if so desired." This definition as we shall see differs greatly from the Bible definition. Matt. 4:2 states that Jesus after his immersion, fasted forty days. Luke 4:2 supplies the definition of the word fast by stating that during this time Jesus "did eat nothing." Thus, fasting means to eat nothing. Jesus, himself, defines fasting as eating nothing, saying, "They continue with me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I will not send them away fasting." Matt. 15:32. Other scriptures such as Esther 4:16, Jonah 3: 5-8, and Acts 17:33, show conclusively that fasting is a period of complete abstinence from food and drink. The definition given to the word fasting by the Roman Catholic church is simply an attempt to give a semblance of scripturalness to a practice of purely human origin.

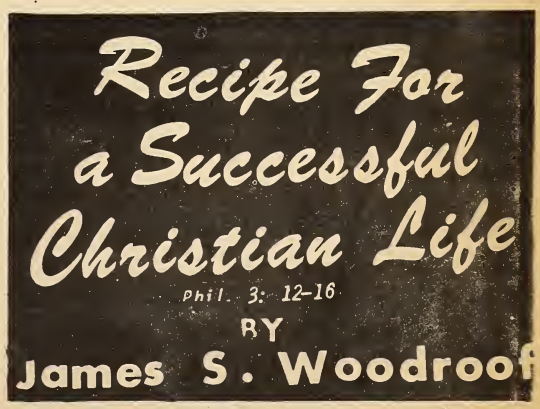
We next notice that fasting is commanded by the Roman Catholic Church. "The church commands us to fast", says O'Brien. Noll and Fallon make 'Father' Smith to say

WHY DO WE FAST OFT?

"everyone over 21 and under 59 years of age is bound to observe the law of fasting. Let us now examine the word of God to determine if there be a place for fasting as a command or law in the New Testament church. Using the American Standard Version, we are able to find only two occasions of religious fasting in the church. In each case the fasting is in connection with a solemn ceremony. Acts 13: 2-3. records the separating and sending out of Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. Acts 14:23 tells of Paul and Barnabas appointing Elders. Both events were occasions of prayer and fasting on the part of those involved in the appointing or sending out, but there is no indication that there was a command or law which bound the church to fast. Thus, fasting as a "command" or "law" is entirely lacking in scriptural authority.

We further note that the purpose of fasting as stated by O'Brien is, "that we may mortify our passions and satisfy for our sins." It is hard to see how a "fast" that permits three meals a day with milk in between could contribute to mortifying the passions. Even the asceticism of the First Century Pythagoreans was unable to accomplish this end. The apostle Paul corrects such erroneous notions in Col. 2: 18-23. He warns us against being subject to such ordinances as "touch not, taste not, handle not". Though these things have a show of humility and neglecting of the body, they are of the world and not of Christ. The further suggestion of O'Brien that fasting serves to "satisfy for our sins "is a blasphemous Romish heresy that denies the sufficiency of the shed blood of Christ. A Christian's sins are forgiven him when he repents and prays. Acts 8:22; I Jn. 1:9. Short of true repentance and humble prayer, no sin will be forgiven, regardless of fastings, indulgences, Rosaries, Scapulars, Novenas or any other supererogatory works invented by the apostate church.

Finally, let us return to the question asked Jesus in Matt. 9:14 and consider his answer. "Jesus said unto them, 'Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom shall be taken from them and then they shall fast'". Our Lord here says, in effect, 'we do not fast because we are not sad.' The attitude of the Pharisees was 'fasting is beneficial, in and of itself, as a means to greater spirituality,' but Jesus said, "No! Fasting is a natural and voluntary accompaniment of intense prayer and complete absorption in spiritual endeavors. We are like a wedding party, happy, but the days will come when I will be taken away, then will my disciples fast." After his arrest and during his trial, crucifixion, burial and the following day, surely the disciples fasted as the Lord had predicted, but on Sunday they were again reunited with the bridegroom and ceased their mourning. Some forty days later, he again left them, but only after the promise, ". . .Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Though bodily absent, he is present with us even now, in his consciousness of our affairs, in his influence in our hearts and in whatever other incomprehensible ways omnipresence operates. We can be truly glad only to the extent we realize his presence with us. There is no way to be happy except in a spirit of close communion with Christ. Christians reject Pharasaic fasting, not because we like eating better, but because we are joyful and glad in the presence of the bridegroom. Will you turn to Christ today, in penitent faith, and obey him from the heart, that you, too might realize the joy of his presence.



Young men and Young Women, there is nothing that I could say to you at this time of any more value than to impress

RECIPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL CHRISTIAN LIFE

upon you that YOU HAVE ONLY ONE LIFE TO LIVE-MAKE THE VERY BEST OF IT !! No greater service can be rendered you as young people than to inspire you to spare no cost nor energy in making your life a shining success. Don't feel that it is a sin to be ambitious; it is a sin not to be ambitious! God has given you many talents, and he expects you to use them ambitiously. Take the good advice of Solomon - "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might . . ."

Solomon gave a reason for our doing whatever we do ambitiously: He said "For there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in Sheol, whither thou goest." In other words - "Make the very best use of this life; for death ends your opportunities!" The Inca Indians offer silent proof of this great truth. The Incas, in burying their dead, would place tools, weapons, clothing and food in the graves of their dead, thinking that they would need them after their death. How foolish was this practice. Many of their graves have been explored, and the weapons, clothes, etc. were of course completely unused from the day they were buried. Young people, if you would accomplish anything, you must accomplish it now. Like the old Quaker said, "I expect to pass through this life but once; if therefore, there is any kindness I can show, or any good thing that I can do for my fellow human beings, let me do it now; let me not defer nor neglect it; for I shall not pass this way again." Therefore, let us not "just live" let us accomplish all we can while we live. "But", you say, "How?" Paul gives us the recipe in Phillippians 3:12-16.

First: One of the most basic requirements for making the life before you a successful life is this: "Possess a fervent, commanding purpose." It is absolutely necessary if you would succeed in anything. Paul had such a commanding purpose: "Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect: but I press on, if so be that I may lay hold on that for which also I was laid hold on by Christ Jesus." Paul had set before him a course. He wasn't just drifting; he had his rudder set, his course in mind - Paul was going some where. Christian young men and women-Where are YOU going? Have you given it any consideration? Or are you just "Helping Zeke, Sir."? The story is told that the father of the Webster brothers on one occasion found his boys listlessly lounging about. He asked one, "Ezekiel, what are you doing?" "Doing nothing", said the boy. "And what are you doing, Daniel?" "Helping Zeke, Sir." How many a young person has wasted his priceless youth just "Helping Zeke."

A Mr. G. B. F. Hallock once said, "A purposeless man seems an almost hopeless case. The reason is because he must undergo a double transformation before you can hope to get anything out of him. First, you must put activity in him and then you must bring it out of him by a purpose. He must be electrified into living. The man is a Pygmalion's statue, lifeless and motionless as marble, and needs first a living soul. But the man with a presiding purpose is always moving. Action is his normal state. Work is his truest rest. He finds nothing so hard as doing nothing. He does not hang like a deadweight upon the wheels of interprise, nor swayed by impulse make only spasmodic effort, but he presses along the way that leads him to some definite and desirable destination." Young people be determined to accomplish something definite in life.

Second: Set your aim high The following saying is every whit true: "If you aim at the barn door you'll never hit the weathercock on the steeple." It isn't enough to just have a purpose in life. You might solemnly purpose to do nothing or solemnly purpose to cheat everyone you can, etc. If your life is to be a success, you must aim high. In everything you do - set your aim high; erect your standards high. You will never envision the stars by looking at the mud on your feet.

For example: you young ladies - if your purpose in life is to "just get married",

RECIPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL CHRISTIAN LIFE

there are a thousand and one worthless men who will gladly oblige you. You'll have a "marriage" but it would not be a successful one. Do you desire your marriage to be successful in every way? Then determine now that you are going to choose as your partner a Christian This, more than anything else, will assure you of a successful marriage.

In whatever you do, AIM HIGH. Plan to be the very best in your field. You may not reach that high, but do the best you can and success is yours. REMEMBER: The person who is just mediocre is just as near failure as he is success; he is just as near the bottom as he is the top Set your aim high, expect to reach it, and you will. Paul's aim was this: I press toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of the God in Christ Jesus." What is your aim, Young Man, Young Woman: Anything less than this is not high enough.

Third: Persue that goal with untiring energy. As valuable as a commanding purpose and a high aim are, without the tenacity to see it through you will be no more successful than the impractical dreamer who builds castles only in the sky. Marshall all your forces in persuit of that one goal. Paul said, "This one thing I do . " 'He who chases two hares catches neither. is an old and true expression. Put all your energy in one direction. "This one thing I do; forgetting those things that are behind, and stretching forward to the things that are before, I press on." Purpose now to attain a high and definite aim in life and then stick to it.

BUT: By what standard is my success measured? By another's success? Fortunately NO! One man's success is another man's failure. This is true because we all possess different kinds and amounts of talent. The standard of your success is whether or not you have done your level best with what God has so graciously given you. If you have done this, the Great Judge of all men considers you a success. "Only whereunto we have attained, by that same rule let us walk."

Finally, young people, as you go about living your fine Christian lives, you'll find it much easier to make your Christian lives a success if you will remember these three things: Remember - 1) WHO YOU ARE (You are children of the God of heaven and earth). 2) WHAT YOU ARE DOING (You are trying to live a successful Christian life.) 3) WHERE YOU ARE GOING. (You are on your way to heaven). By remembering these few suggestions you will help make your Christian life full and rich, so that one day you may say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, Which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me in that last day "

Teen-age News

TEEN-AGERS NEWS, New Buncombe Road, Greenville, S.C.

A going away party was given in honor of Miss Wanda Davis, December 22, 1958, at the home of Miss Caroline Camp. The new home of Wanda and her family will be Sitka, Alaska, where her father will preach for the church there.

Many other fine Bible classes were held by the teen-agers at this congregation.

TEEN-AGE SINGING

There will be a congregational singing especially for the teen-agers in the Piedmont area, at the Moore Church of Christ, on February 1st, at 3:00. Everyone is invited to attend.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This section of the Carolina Messenger of Truth is dedicated to the teen-agers of the Carolinas. Make use of it by submitting reports and announcements of your activities.

God's Power To Save

BY T. A. Isaacs



In this atomic age in which we live we are seeing constantly the great power man has tamed and is using for his good as well as his own destruction. Several satellites have been put into orbit around the earth; Russia has just orbited a cosmic rocket around the moon; new and more powerful weapons are being invented every day. Men and women are standing in awe and amazement at the tremendous power being demonstrated on every hand. But there is a power at work in the universe today that will surpass every cosmic rocket, hydrogen bomb and earth satellite and that is the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek." (Romans 1: 16). Man has never known, nor will he ever know a power greater than this. If we will pause for a moment and observe some life changed by the gospel we can understand why Paul made this state ment concerning the gospel of Christ. What else is there in the universe that can make a drunkard into a sober living individual? What power other than this can make an unholy woman into a virtous mother and wife? What else can make a liar, a cheat, a thief, a covetous individual into an honest God-fearing person? Nothing but the gospel of Christ can do this for a man. The hydrogen bomb and these modern day inventions are designed primarily for the destruction of the lives of men but the gospel lies in the fact that it will save the souls of men. No wonder James admonishes us "to receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." Thus we see then why it was that Paul spoke of the gospel as "God's power to save".

Men have always tried to improve upon this power but the things of God cannot be improved upon. "Pastor" Russel wrote seven columinous volumes and declared it would be more profitable to pursue his books without reading the scriptures. Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy brought into existence a book entitled "Sceince and Health with key to the Scriptures" and gave to it a prominence above the gospel of Christ. Joseph Smith, from the "Golden Plates", gave the world the book of Mormon and this volume is revered more than the gospel itself. Just a few months ago two young men stood in my home in Columbia, S. C. and declared to me saying that there were contridictions in the Bible. These are but a few of many examples of how men have ever tried to improve upon the gospel, but it is the same yesterday, today and forever: still the "POWER OF GOD TO SAVE". Paul, realizing the prevalence of teachers who would seek to add to the power of God, wrote to the churches of Galatia these words, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." (Gal. 1:8). Yet in the face of this anathema from heaven itself men still go on seeking to change, add to, subtract from and improve upon the glorious power of God, the gospel.

After Jesus had been crucified, buried and raised and just before he ascended back to the Father from whence he came, it was this gospel that he commissioned his disciples to go into all the world and preach. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:15,16). This is a command of Jesus himself, God in the flesh, to the chosen men. The reason Jesus charged them to preach the gospel

was because as Paul stated: "It is God's power to save". If a person is saved today it will be by the gospel of Christ.

Just ten days after the Lord gave this commission to these chosen men, the power of the gospel was exhibitedfor the first time when three thousand "murders"responded to it. Here in the second chapter of Acts is a visible demonstration of the power of the gospel of Christ. Peter, as the Holy Spirit gave him utterance, accused these assembled Jews of crucifying the Son of God, but further stated that God had raised him up to be both Lord and Christ. "Now when they heard this they were pricked in their hearts, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:37-38. "Then they that gladly received his word were baptised: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." Acts 2:41. Thanks be to God for the tremendous power of the gospel. As we continue to read from the book of Acts we see many more such demonstrations of the "Power of God to save."

The outstanding question in some of our minds at this time should be, "Have I let this power transform or change my life?" The gospel is prevalent in the world today. Many fine men are proclaiming it every day. Yet the gospel is something that each one of us as individuals must accept and obey. Jesus Christ does not force His gospel upon us, he simply pleads with men to "come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest". Unless you believe this gospel and act upon its commandments it will never transform your life, but if you respond, as did three thousand in Acts the second chapter, it will do the same thing for you that it did for them: remit your past sins.

In view of a fast approaching eternity, if you have not let this power change your life, obey the Gospel of Christ. Peter asks this soul jarring question, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, WHAT SHALL THE END BE OF THEM THAT OBEY NOT THE GOSPEL OF GOD?" I Peter 4:17. Paul gives the answer to this momentous question, "And to you who are troubled, rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, AND THAT OBEY NOT THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power. II Thess. 1:7-9. Good people, time and eternity demand that we obey the gospel, God's power tp save, if we would one day enjoy the beautiful mansions prepared for us by the Lord himself. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one **that believeth; to the Jew first, and also** to the Greek."

The Church Is Growing In South Carolina:

BY **Dabney Phillips**

South Carolina has been recognized as a mission field by our brethren. Statistically, the church has been growing since 1950. Previous to 1950, there were sixteen (16) small white congregations and two (2) colored congregations. Today there are thirty-five (35) white congregations and five (5) colored congregations. The congregations have erected twenty (20) new meeting houses since 1950 and twenty-five of the thirty-five white congregations have full time preachers. There are fifteen (15) of the congregations that are self-supporting. Since so many of the groups are young, only six congregations have elders.

Why has the church grown so rapidly within the past nine years? Strong congregations in Tennessee are sending able men into the state and staying with the man until the church is firmly established. Then too the preacher is being given tools with which to work such as radio and television programs. (cont. page 16)

Who Then Can Be Saved

By C. W. Bradley



"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, verily, I say unto you, that a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. When his disciples heard it they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?" Matt. 19: 23-25.

In this passage of scripture the disciples raised a question that should challenge the most serious attention of everyone. WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED? To be saved means to be forgiven of sins and to be welcomed into the eternal glories of heaven. Through the ages multitudes of answers have been given to this important question.

THE ATHEIST SAYS THAT NO ONE CAN BE SAVED. He argues that there is no God and that it is a waste of time to talk about being saved. It is impossible for a person to know there is no God. The person who makes such a statement is simply exalting self; he is claiming to know everything. The Psalmist states "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." Psalms 14:1. If at times you have doubted the existence of God, then go out on some clear night and gaze up into the starry heavens and then ask yourself, Did this just happen? If you will be honest with yourself, you will be led to exclaim the words of David, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handywork." Ps. 19:1. As you study the vastness and the beauty of the heavenly world, you will be humbled as was David who said, "When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him?" Ps. 8:3-4. The person who rejects God can give no logical explanation of the origin of the world and of life. The best explanation is that "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Gen. 1:1.

The atheistic forces in the world are enthusiastic in spreading their destructive message. It is pathetic indeed that they are often more zealous than are many who claim to believe in God and the Bible. Who then can be saved? THE UNIVERSALIST ANSWERS, "WHY EVERYONE WILL BE SAVED." He argues that God is so good, so loving and so merciful that he will permit no one to be lost. He continues by saying that Christ died for everyone, therefore, everyone will be saved. We agree that God is good, loving and merciful and that Christ died for everyone, but we do not agree that everyone will be saved. The Bible plainly teaches that "the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat; but the gate is strait and the way is narrow that leads to life and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:13-14. The Lord will say to some on the day of judgment, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matt 25:41. God is willing for all to be saved, but not all are willing to accept salvation. The Universalist is mistaken in thinking that all men will be saved.

Who then can be saved? THE CALVINIST TELLS US THAT ONLY THE PREDESTINED WILL BE SAVED. His definition of predestined is that God chose or elected every individual to be saved or to be lost even before being born into this world. He further reasons that there is absolutely nothing that a man can do about the matter of salvation. It's all in the hands of God. If God elected you to be saved, all is well; if he elected you to be lost, then you are just doomed for eternal damnation. Rather depressing, isn't it?

The Bible does teach that God chose or elected the plan whereby man may be saved, but it nowhere teaches personal

election. The poet expressed the truth well when he wrote,

"To every man there opens a way,
A high way and a low.
And each man shall chose,
The way his soul shall go."

If God has chosen some to be saved and others to be lost even before they were born, then he is a respector of persons. But that is exactly what the Bible says that God is not. Acts 10:34. Such a doctrine would also remove all personal responsibility and make man a mere machine with no power to choose. It would cause many passages in the Bible to have no meaning whatsoever. If man has not the power to choose or reject salvation, then what did Christ mean when he said, "come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28. What did Christ mean when he said "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him"? Rev. 3:20. If God has elected a certain number to be saved even before they are born, then what does Rev. 22:17 mean? This passage states, "And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." What did Peter mean when, after listing several Christians virtues, he said, "For if ye do these things, ye shall never fall. "II. Pet. 1:10. Does he not imply that if ye not "do these things" ye will fall? If God had already chosen these people to be saved even before they were born, what difference did it make whether they did "these things" or not. Such a doctrine just can't be harmonized with the word of God. I am the master of my destiny. God has provided a plan, but it's up to me to accept this plan.

Who then can be saved? SOME INSIST THAT ALL WHO "JUST BELIEVE ON THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." We know that the Bible teaches the absolute necessity of faith, but does it teach that faith is the only condition of salvation? James answers, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only . . . For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." James 2:24-26. John tells us of some chief rulers who "believed on Christ, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him lest they be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." John 12:42. These rulers believed, but who thinks they will be saved? They would not confess Christ. The faith that saves is the faith that obeys. The person whose faith is too weak to lead him to obey Christ cannot be saved. "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21.

Who then can be saved? MANY OTHER ANSWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN, BUT LET US NOW STRESS THE BIBLE ANSWER. Only the person who <u>believes</u> can be saved. "He that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. "Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6. Only the person who <u>repents</u> can be saved. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3. "And the times of ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30. Only the person who <u>confesses</u> Christ can be saved. "Whosoever confesses me before men, him will I also confess before my father which is in heaven." Matt. 10:32. "With the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:10. Only the person who is "<u>born of the water and the spirit</u>" can enter the kingdom. John 3:5. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mark 16:16. "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins . . ." Acts 2:38. "We are buried with him by baptism into death." Rom. 6:4. Only the person who <u>lives a faithful Christian life</u> can be saved. "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee the crown of life." Rev. 2:10.

If you are not saved, then turn to Christ immediately. Believe in him and obey all his commands. Live for him every day and live in hope of eternal life.

This publication is available in bundles of 25 or more at a cost of $ .10 per paper.
24 or less $0.15 per copy

A Need For Help

In the summer of 1955, P.K. Alexander asked the Wendover Ave. church, Greensboro, N.C. help him start a work among the 20,000 colored people of Greensboro. They had been discussing ways of getting a work started among the colored people and it seemed that the Lord was opening the way. The help was given and now there is a congregation of colored people in Greensboro known as the Ireland St. Church of Christ.

The Wendover church made a down payment on a building and meet the monthly payments for five or six months until the Ireland Street brethren could meet them with the aid of $45.00 a month outside help. They expect to have the building paid for in another fifteen months. They have painted and repaired the building to some extent but there is still work that needs to be done. The building will seat about 120 persons. The property was deeded to the trustees of the Wendover church because at the time of purchase Bro. and Sis. Alexander were the only members of the colored church. The deed is now being prepared to transfer title to the trustees of the Ireland Street church.

Since the beginning of the work, thirty-two have been baptized. A few were baptized in meetings, but most of the baptisms were the result of personal work done by Bro. Alexander. Some have not remained faithful but there are about twenty or twenty-five members now who attend. Among these is a young man in his last year in high school who wants to go to a Christian school and prepare to preach. He is already preaching some and is doing well. Bro. Alexander is 55 years old and has lived in Greensboro most of the time since he was a young man. He heard the gospel and was baptized in 1931. About a year later he began preaching and has preached ever since. He is a capable man. He has a good Bible knowledge and good judgment He is sound in the faith and free of hobbies. He has always lived a clean life and is well known and highly respected.

The first growth of this work has been encouraging but it is hindered by the fact Bro. Alexander has so little time to devote to it. He has to work hard to support his family. He needs to spend much time teaching in the homes of the people. He has proved the effectiveness of his personal work. He believes if he can give full time to the work, the congregation will be self-supporting in 18 months. For Bro. Alexander to be able to quit his job and give his full time to the work of the Lord, he would need an income of $200 per month. The Wendover Ave. church will give $10.00 per month. This leaves $190.00 per month that is needed.

In behalf of the Ireland St. Church we are undertaking to get brethren interested in supporting Bro. Alexander so he can give the time necessary to do a really effective work.

For more information and details write to the: Wendover Ave. Church Of Christ, P.O. Box 2665, Greensboro, N.C.

RADIO & TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

"Herald of Truth"
WCOS, Columbia, S. C.-------- 7:30 P.M.
WGNC, 1450 KC, Gastonia, N.C. 2:30 P.M.
WECT, Channel 6, Wilmington, N.C.--Noon
WJMX, ---------- 2:30 P.M.
WKIX, 850 KC, High Point, N.C. 2:30 P.M.
WKIT, Durham, N.C.---------- 5:30 P.M.
WDNC, Durham, N.C.---------- 9:15 A.M.
WGTN, 1400 KC,---------- 2:30 P.M.
WACA, 1590 KC, ---------- 8:40 A.M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N.C. ---------- 8:45 A.M.

FRIDAY

"The Bible's Answer"
WSPA-TV, Channel 7,
Spartanburg, S. C.---------- 7:45 A.M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590 KC,---------- 5:00 P.M.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

"The Bible Hour"
WGCD---------- 11:45 A.M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg, S.C.----11:45 A.M.

CAROLINA LECTURES, APRIL 6-10, 1959

The Elders of the Plaza congregation have tentatively set April 6-10 as the dates for the 1959 CAROLINA LECTURES. We believe that we are going to have an interesting program. The plans as they now stand call for the morning sessions to deal with the preacher and his work and responsibilities; the afternoon and evening sessions to deal with "The Christian Life". A highlight of the program will be an open forum each evening dealing with some of the outstanding problems a Christian must face.

PREACHERS IN THE CAROLINAS - PLEASE NOTE!

This is the only notice regarding the lectures to be sent out. If you can be on the Carolina lectures this year, please write to me IMMEDIATELY at P.O. Box 9334, Charlotte, North Carolina. PLEASE do not delay in doing this at once as it will be of tremendous help to us. If you do not write us right away, we will understand that you cannot be on the Lectures this year. We want to complete the program as quickly as possible and your help in this is requested. T.A. Issacs.

RETRACTION

In the EDITORIAL of last month's issue (our first issue) of CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH we stated that the staff writers would be the "only ones whose articles would appear in the paper." This was not favorably accepted by many of my brethren; I understand why. It would eliminate many GOOD writers who would like to contribute articles.

Our purpose in setting it up as we did was, First: to be sure of having articles each month, Second: to eliminate those whose desire was to hurt, rather than to help. But allow me to repeat that we will never print that which will do harm, but only that which will build up and strengthen the cause of Christ our Lord. Articles written by those other than the staff writers will be used in this publication from time to time.

. . . The Editor.

NOTICE

All congregations that have not received a questionaire from Bill G. Smith of Williston, South Carolina, please contact him at once, This is URGENT. When you receive one fill it out and return by mail quickly as possible. Bill G. Smith, Box 255, Williston, South Carolina.

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS

COLUMBIA, S.C., 2925 Devine St.
Neal Roberts, Evangelist

T.A. Issacs has completed his work with this congregation and has moved to work with the Plaza congregation, Charlotte, N.C. During his year and a half stay here there were 28 baptisms and 26 restorations. All have remained faithful, except for a few. It has been announced that Bro. Neal Roberts of Milton, Florida, will assume the duties of preacher here in February. He is a graduate of Freed-Hardeman college and has worked in Lewisburg and Milan, Tenn. Let us welcome Bro. Roberts and his family to the Carolinas and wish him God-speed in his efforts here.

DURHAM, N.C., 1323 Watts St.
Harold L. Scott, Evangelist

The year of 1958 saw the church in Durham prove conclusively that faith plus planning makes progress. In January, 1958, a budget of $6,800 was planned. It was met plus $13.50. One of the goals of this budget was to bring the church here nearer to self-supporting. Just about $35.00 more per week would make this congregation self-supporting.

ASHEVILLE, N.C., 54 Vance St.
Waymon Love, Evangelist

Plans have been completed for the presentation of the HERALD OF TRUTH on WLOS-TV station each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for thirteen weeks beginning January 18, 1959. We sincerely hope that you will watch these programs and encourage others to do so. If you desire a copy of any of the lessons presented you may obtain them by writing to the Herald of Truth, Box 1858, Abilene, Texas.

UNION, S.C., South Pinkney St.
James S. McDonald, Evangelist

December 26, 1958, began the third year of labor for the preacher here. We have, with God's help, been able to accomplish many things during the past year. We have had two meetings and a Vacation Bible School; several cottage meetings were held; food, clothing and supplies were given to needy and burned out families; mission work has been supported in Chester, S.C. and other places; two new class rooms have been added; and 52 weekly radio programs have been broadcast on station WBCU. Our Bible school attendance has increased on a weekly average by 16 persons. An increase has also been seen in the morning and evening classes, Wednesday evening study group, and in the Ladies' classes. There was an average increase in contribution of $16.54. Our contribution during 1958 averaged $141.14 weekly.

GREENSBORO, N.C., 811 Wendover Ave.
O. P. Baird, Evangelist

The church here had three baptisms in the first three weeks of this year. The first Sunday this year we had 119 present for Sunday school and 167 present for the worship service. During 1957, 14 persons were baptised, 2 restored, and 31 placed membership. Besides two meetings, our regular services and a vacation Bible school, we have contributed to mission work in Asheboro, N.C. We hope in the coming year to be able to do more mission work than before. We have contributed to benevolent work to a great extent. Among other works of the congregation was the Dial-A-Devotion program and the distribution of 100 copies per month of the "20th Century Christian". As we look back over the past year we are thankful for what has been accomplished, but we are certainly not satisfied. We must go onward!

GREENVILLE, S.C., 2 Marble St.
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

We believe the Lord has been greatly blessing our effort here at Judson and we offer our praise and thanks unto him for his goodness. The Bible study attendance on Lord's day morning averaged nine more per Sunday in 1958 than in 1957. The average for 1958 was 113. The giving averaged $11.31 more per week in 1958 than in 1957. The average weekly contribution for 1958 was $164.61. Last year we had twelve responses to the invitation of Christ. Thus far this year we have had three to obey the gospel of Christ and two to confess negligence with one to be restored and place membership. For 1959 we have set our budget at $175.00 per week. Of this amount, we plan to put $1000.00 into radio and mission work. Presently, we are sending some support to three congregations. Among our future plans, we are working towards obtaining a lot for the purpose of constructing a new building. We have $2,161.16 in the building fund now.

CHARLOTTE, N.C., 1216 The Plaza
T. A. Issacs, Evangelist

The records show that 1958 was a very good year for this congregation. Among the progress was: The record attendance for the year was 184; the additions, including baptisms, restorations, and those placing membership, numbered 42. The brethren are to be commended for their zeal in helping with mission work such as: sending support to the local colored congregation and to Lancaster; more than 50 sermons were preached here and in other cities during the past year by the brethren here.

WILMINGTON, N.C., 215 S. Seventeenth St. Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Looking back over 1958, we note the fol-

lowing accomplishments: Herald of Truth was secured for the local TV station; a new congregation was established in the town of Whiteville, N.C. in co-operation with the Fayettville congregation; shipments of clothing were made to Puerto Rico and to the Cherokee Indians of N.C.; seven families locally were helped with gifts of food and clothing; an increase of 25% in contributions and 50% in attendance was experienced; 14 responded to the invitation. During January, 1959, we have added a new Bible class on Sunday and have completed the wiring of the nursery for sound. Our attendance is averaging 85.

WILLISTON, S.C.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

I moved here Sept. 1, 1958, from Seneca, S.C. Our top attendance during the past four months was 75 on a Sunday night. The contribution record is $141.61 and the Sunday school record is 69. Plans are in the making for establishing a congregation in Bamberg, S.C., which is 25 miles from here.

GREENWOOD, S.C.
U. O. Dover, Evangelist

The congregation in Greenwood has recently purchased a nice lot on Highway 25 entering Greenwood. The lot is 130' wide and tapers off to 80' at the back. Their plans are to sell the house they now meet in and then erect a building on the lot. Their old property is now for sale. The congregation has recently ordained three elders who are: U.O. Dover, M.L. Brown, and S.Y. Williams. One deacon has been ordained, Dexter D. Beavers.

MOORE, S.C., 2 miles west of Moore Sta.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

The work here continues to grow with an increase in attendance and contributions. The Wednesday evening Bible study is increasing largely due to the fact that the male brethren of the congregation are teaching the class. On Sunday afternoon the brethren are studying the duties of an elder.

GREENVILLE, S.C., 2201 New Buncombe Rd.

The work here is progressing very good. Although we are not growing in number, we are growing in unity and love. Bro. June Landrum and others have been preaching and bringing some inspiring lessons since the leaving of Bro. J. W. Davis. We hope very soon to get a full-time minister.

Our young people are growing in number rapidly. We have several classes for our young people and we are grateful that they are interested in the work of God. We all here at New Buncombe Road solicit the prayers of all our brethren throughout the brotherhood.

CHESTER, S.C. 135 Saluda St.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

The church in Chester is just a little over two years old. During 1958, the weekly statistics for the church were as follows: 22 Bible study; 24 morning worship; 24 evening worship; 16 mid-week service; and a $72.00 weekly contribution. Three were immersed. Delay in receiving vital materials and the inclement weather have caused a delay in the completion of our building. Apparently it will be the latter part of February before the first service will be held in the new building. It was thrilling to read the initial issue of the "Carolina Messanger of Truth".

SHELBY, N.C. 701 Blanton St.

A few women have been meeting here for some time. There are no men in the congregation. Bro. Everett Bean preached here until last summer. Since that time we have been without a full time preacher. Several congregations in the area are helping with the preaching and for this we are thankful. We have a small building in which to meet and support from Oklahoma of $160.00 per month. This would be a fine work for a young preacher who could work part-time on the side. If you are interested contact Mrs. Johnson or Mrs. Anders, P.O. Box 291, Shelby, N.C.

SPARTANBURG, S.C., 445 Beaumont Ave.

The preacher here has left to work with another congregation. During his stay, 45 persons were restored, 13 baptised, and four placed membership. Since that time some have moved away and some are unfaithful. However, five restorations were made in January, 1959. We are still in need of support for our building needs. Four of the brethren are now doing the preaching for us.

ANDERSON, S.C., 1400 S. McDuffie St. Guy W. Nicholas, Evangelist.

The congregation here was established in 1939 by J.W. Brents of Nashville, Tenn. Bro. Brents conducted a radio program for ten days, followed with a gospel meeting in one of the local funeral homes. During this meeting about five members of the church located here. With this small number the church was started. Since that time, Bros. H.M. Dodson, Eston Macon, John R. Avants, Guy W. Nicholas have worked with this congregation. After meeting for about a year in the chapel of the funeral home, we rented a store room for about two years. From there we moved back to the funeral home and still later back to the store room. In 1945 we bought a lot and began building a meeting house. The lot and building are now debt free. Our number has grown from 5 to the present number of 35. A good number of non-christians are attending the services. At present we have 4 Bible study classes on Sunday morning, two worship services on the Lord's day, a Bible study on Wednesday evening, and a class on Sunday evening for the young people. For the past two years, we have had two meetings each year. Last year we had 4 baptisms and two restorations. We desire the prayers of all the brethren.

NOTICE

If your copy of this publication has been incorrectly addressed, please send us your correct mailing address at once. Do you know of a congregation of the Church of Christ in the Carolinas that is not receiving this paper. Please let us know of them.

OTHER NEWS ITEMS!

The Pope Street congregation, Columbia, S.C. has begun Construction of their new building. We rejoice with them in this work.

The William Lamberts of Rock Hill, S. C. have announced their plans to move to Russellville, Alabama.

The church at Orangeburg, S.C. will begin construction on a new building soon. We wish them well in this endeavor.

Two preachers have recently moved into the Carolinas to begin work here. Bro. Jack Byars will work with the Kannapolis, N.C. congregation and Bro. C.T. Kidwell will work with the church in Pantego, N.C. We welcome these brethren to the Carolinas.

THE CHURCH IS GROWING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

As we reflect upon this growth, we are not unmindful of the fact that still approximately one-half of the county seats have no New Testament church meeting. It must be remembered that the demoninations have been entrenched in these towns previously to the civil war. Time will be required to overcome error with the truth. But thanks be to God that progress is being made from the church to "tell the story" to these hearts that are sincere.

A lecturship has been conducted for several years in one of the church buildings on a rotating basis. A camp is operated by individual members of the church from both of the Carolinas. The first issue of the Carolina Messanger of Truth has been published. The church thus far has not been disturbed by harmful hobbies. The Lord is blessing his people in the beautiful state of South Carolina.

"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (Gal. 3: 26-27)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

March 1. 1959
Vol.I No.III, Published Monthly - 205 East Main Street, Easley, S.C.



Isaih 1:
18 Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Dear Reader:

This is the third month that the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH has been published and distributed throughout the Carolinas to every known congregation. Every report we have had has been favorable. Most of them say it fills a long felt need in the Carolinas. It serves as a newsletter and as an aid in spreading the thruths of the Gospel to those who are yet in DARKNESS.

To date this publication has been offered only in bundle lots, hoping the churches would buy it for use in their effort to serve the Master, but as yet, the response has been very limited. The burden of the cost has been on the publisher. This cannot go on indefinitely as much as we would like to do so. If the paper is to continue, circulation will have to be increased to a point where it will pay the cost of publication and distribution.

To date, as already mentioned, the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH has only been offered in bundles, but with this issue (March) we will take individual subscriptions at $2.00 per year. We will, however, continue to supply it in bundles to the congregations who wish to use it in their personal work. I hope not a few will avail themselves of this effective way of spreading the truth. Effective? Yes, it is effective. We are certain of this for we have already in our files evidence of some outside the Church who have expressed their interest.

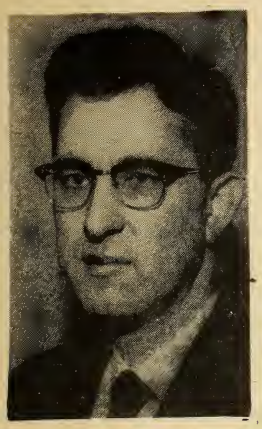
In this issue you will find a convenient order form for your use in placing your subscription and (or) ordering bundles. Please make use of them so that the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH may continue without the aide of outside help.

Yours in Christ,

John R. Avants
Editor

WHY TAKE A CHANCE?

BY C. W. BRADLEY



In all walks of life people are prone to take chances. Many never go to a doctor for a checkup until it's too late. Many never think of insuring their property until they see their house burning. But it is not in the physical things of life that man takes his biggest chances; it is in the spiritual things. Many who take great care concerning their property, their health and their finances often do not show nearly as much judgement in things pertaining to their soul. When a doctor is needed most of us want the best. If we are thinking of investing money in a company, we make sure by checking and double-checking, that the company is a successful one. Should we go to a used car lot for the purpose of buying a car, we would not be willing to take the first car we see without examining it. We would want to hear the motor run and we would likely want to drive it a few miles before buying it. Even though the car dealer might be an honest man we would still want to see for ourselves. But when it comes to spiritual things, many are willing to accept just anything and everything. If our preacher or our friends say it's right that makes it right. No investigation is made. Often times the man who wants a thorough examination of his condition would feel insulted if someone suggested that he examine his spiritual condition. Why not be as careful in things spiritual as in things temporal. Sincerity does not make a thing right. Saul of Tarsus was very sincere while he was persecuting Christians, but later he learned that he was honestly mistaken.

Many take a chance on the name they wear. To wear only the name of Christ is an infallibly safe course, "for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.!" Acts 4:12. Writing to the church at Colosse, Paul said, "And whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the father through him." Col. 3:17. The apostle Peter wrote, "But if a man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this name." I Pet. 4:16. No one will say that it's wrong to wear the name of Christ. Why take a chance by wearing some man-given name? Why not be sure.

Many take a chance on their baptism. Even though the Bible is clear in pointing out that baptism is a "burial and a resurrection" Col.2:12. Rom. 6:3-4, many are willing to risk sprinkling and pouring. It is agreed by all that a person has obeyed the word of God when he, in sincerity, has been emersed. Yet many are still willing to risk something else.

It is also agreed by those who accept the New Testament that a person who has heard the gospel, believed it, repented of his sins, and confessed his faith can then be scripturally baptized. Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38. Yet thousands are willing to risk taking infants who cannot hear the gospel, believe it, repent of sins or confess their faith in Christ, and do that which they call "baptizing them". Why take such a chance? Why not take the safe course?

Multitudes take a chance on the type of music they use in their worship. Everyone will admit that we can please God by "Speaking to one another in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord." Eph. 5:19. Yet many take a chance by going beyond God's word and adding mechanical instruments of music to their worship. No mechanical instrument of music was ever used in Christian worship until five or six centuries after the church was started and some of the leading scholars of well known demoninations have opposed their use. Why take a chance in this matter? Why not worship God in

a way that cannot be wrong?

Those who partake of the Lord's Supper only three or four times each year run a tremendous risk. It is admitted that the early Christians met regularly upon the first day of each week to break bread. Acts 20:7. and everyone will admit also that it is scriptural to do so today. But thousands are willing to take a chance by leaving this precious memorial out of their worship. Why take a chance in omitting from worship that which the Lord said, "This do in memory of me" I Cor. 11:24.

Take time out to make a thorough examination of your spiritual life to see if you are taking any of these chances. Do not be satisfied to accept anything that pertains to your soul's salvation without first knowing that it is taught in God's word. Your soul is the most important thing in the world. Should you gain everything the world has to offer and lose your soul you will have lost everything, for "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul." Don't take chances. Be sure.

Even those who are pleading for a complete return to God's word can take chances. Some brethren who know well the word of God and who are ready to contend for it take big chances in the way they live. Some are irregular in meeting for worship; some have never even started to give as they are prospered; some never pray or study the word; some are indifferent when it comes to teaching others; some hold grudges and refuse to forgive, and others are guilty of being in love with the world and the things of this world. WHY TAKE CHANCES? Brethren, let's be SURE.

W H A T I F-

God gave us the same amount of time and attention that we devote to Him?
God put as many things ahead of us as we put ahead of Him?
God offered as many excuses that were no more justifiable than ours?
God's promises to us were no more certain than ours to Him?

Mission Responsibility

As a brotherhood we are not fulfilling our mission task, and ultimately the responsibility must be laid at the feet of elders and preachers.

Somewhere along the line we are failing to inspire young people to plan their lives as missionaries and to dedicate themselves to this work solely. We are also failing to inspire elders to feel the responsibility for any such activity. Too many times elders feel content with their own local program and simply the "reasonable" meeting of such local obligations as providing worship services for those who want to attend. Too often the local preacher is content to provide two sermons and the other obvious obligations each week and, since he is able to get along with the elders and nobody is especially critical of his work, he is content to enjoy this arrangement and does not really feel much challenge for those in the next block.

What are others doing? According to a recent report published by the brethren in France:

Seventh Day Adventists have 23,000 full-time missionaries and are working in at least 228 countries and inland groups.

Jehovah's Witnesses have at least 10,000 full-time missionaries in some 160 lands.

Presbyterians (USA) with 2,000,000 members have 1,300 missionaries.

Mormons with 1,106,018 members have 800 missionaries in Germany alone.

Churches of Christ with 1,800,000 members have about 100 missionaries outside the United States who are preaching in only about 20 countries of the world.

Maybe these facts will cause us to increase our own efforts.
(adapted from an editorial by J.D.Thomas)

AN ETERNAL REQUIREMENT

BY BURL CURTIS

The New Testament is like a perpetual echo, crying "OBEY" "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that DOETH the will of my father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21. "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, we ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29. . ."And we are his witnesses of These things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." Acts 5:32. Peter asks this question, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God." and Paul gives the answer. "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." II Thess. 1:8. "And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed." II Thess. 3:14. And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." Heb. 5:9. And with one final undying voice the book of Revalations says, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14. In our age this eternal commandment of God is in full force.

Does anyone doubt that God will require obedience through all the eternity yet to come? "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and SERVE him day and night in his temple; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them." Rev. 7:14-15. Through all of man;s existance, and even before, God has required it. He demands it now. And through the endless eternity to come, He will continue to require it. Obedience is an eternal requirement of God.

All through the ceaseless ages past, God has required obedience. The few rays of light we have regarding God and angels lets us see that this is true. "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;" writes Peter (II Pet. 2:4), and Jude follows by saying, "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." (Jude 6) Thus angels fell by disobedience.

While the history of mankind was but an infant God required obedience. Adam and Eve were to obey God by having dominion over all the earth, by being fruitful, by dressing and keeping the garden and by refusing to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. When they broke this eternal requirement, obedience, they were driven out of the garden.

By obedience, Noah built an ark "wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water." Before the flood Noah was obedient in all things. "Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he." Gen. 6:22.

While the law of Moses governed God's people, examples of this requirement are numerous. The faithful prophet Samuel asked King Saul why he had spared Agag and the best of the flocks? "Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams." I Sam. 15:22. God had commanded Saul to utterly destroy the Amalekites and all that they had, and even though Saul planned to offer the best of the flocks as a sacrifice, God marked him disobedient.

THE MESSIANIC PROPHESY FROM THE MINOR PROPHETS

BY T. A. ISAACS



With this issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth, we begin a study of the Messianic prophesy from the minor prophets. For the next four or 5 issues we will continue this study. We sincerely hope that it will be both interesting and informative. Let me admonish each reader to read through the twelve minor prophets beginning with Hosea and ending with Malachi. Sometimes we are lax in our study from the Old Testament simply because we are not amenable to the law of God that is revealed therein. We hope these studies will cause each reader to have a deeper appreciation for the minor prophets.

In a study of this nature it might be well to notice one or two terms that are used throughout the prophets before going into a discussion of the messianic prophesy proper.

First, one may be able to understand the prophets better if the true meaning of the term "Day of Jehovah" were known. The prophet Joel continually exhorts the people to repent of their wicked ways and warns them of the approaching "Day of Jehovah." In 1:15 the day of Jehovah is a day of destruction; in 2:10,11 it is a day of judgment; in 2:1 it is a day of darkness and gloom, clouds and thick darkness; in 2:30,31 it is a great and terrible day; in 3:13-16 it is a day of decision. From all of these one can definitely see that the "Day of the Lord" or "Day of Jehovah" is a day of judgment to the enemies of God and a day of deliverance for His people. This can be seen further from Joel 2:30-32. There are two things involved in these verses; (1) the destruction of the enemy--judgment, and (2) the glorification of God's people-- deliverance. Without a doubt one can see from this passage the vivid description that characterizes war--judgment, and then in verse 32 the salvation of those that escape, the people of God --deliverance. The prophet Obadiah may also throw some light on this study. In the first part of His book he warns the people of Edom of the terrors of the "Day of Jehovah." From this prophesy also one can see the meaning as it has already been applied is a true one. This study of the phrase "Day of Jehovah" will help one better to understand the phrase as it is used in dealing with the messianic prophesy.

In this study I will set forth the messianic discussion under three headings: (1) the kingdom, (2) the Messiah and the kingdom and (3) the people of the kingdom, Please keep this outline firmly fixed in your mind as we continue these studies together.

First, let us notice the prophesy concerning the kingdom in our introductory article, Most of the prophets set forth the idea of "A restoration of a remnant:" As one may know from a study of the prophets the restoration of a remnant has a two fold application. Its immediate application is to the restoration of the remnant of Israel out of captivity, but the ultimate application is to the kingdom of God today, spiritual Israel. Haggai continually exhorts the people to rebuild the temple and "Zerrubbable, the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the 'remnant of the people' obeyed the voice of Jehovah". This remnant that Haggai speaks of is the remnant of the people brought back after the captivity. This can further be seen from other prophets such as Isaiah 10:20-22 and Nehemiah 1:3, 8-10. One may learn from Isaiah also that God will set His hand a second time to deliver the remnant. In Isaiah the eleventh chapter the prophet speaking of the "shoot out of the stock of Jesse," Jesus Christ, Says "that the Lord will set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people." This is without out a doubt the ultimate application of this phrase to the kingdom today. The apostle Paul, in the kingdom, spoke of

this remnant in Romans 11: 5 when he says, "There is a remnant according to the election of grace."

The Prophet Micah also speaks of the restoration of a remnant. In chapter 2:12, 13 the prophet shows the promise of restoration and deliverance to the "remnant of Israel". Jehovah says, "I will surely assemble thee," "I will surely gather the remnant of Israel." Jehovah also says that He is going to put them together as the sheep of Bozrah as a flock in the midst of their pasture. Many times in the New Testament, the New Covenant, the kingdom is spoken of under the figure of a flock, e.g. Acts 20:28, I Peter 5: 2,3. Therefore, one may look back through the stream of time and see what the prophet Micah meant by the phrase "gathering the flock together." Micah also refers to the remnant in chapter 4. In verses 6-8 the prophet shows that the dispersed, the "remnant" would be restored and that the lame would be healed and also made a "remnant." Jehovah here also says He will restore their "Former dominion," that is as when Israel had one king.

The prophet Obadiah in his little book speaks of those that escape or are delivered on Mount Zion. The remnant on Mount Zion without a doubt refers to the kingdom today which is Jehovah's and will be delivered back to him by Christ the Saviour at the end, I Cor. 15.

In Zephaniah 3:11-13 Jehovah through this prophet shows that Israel will be restored to his favor and not only will they be restored but they would be cleansed and sanctified. The prophet Hosea also shows that Israel, type of the kingdom today, would be restored to the divine favor. This the prophet shows in the last part of chapter 14 and also in chapter3 he gives the promise of a final restoration. Israel was to return to Jehovah and seek after him and "David" their king, Jesus Christ in type.

The prophet Amos speaks of the kingdom being restored or rebuilt in a different way. In chapter 9 verse 11 Jehovah through the prophet says, "In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up its ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old." This verse reveals that Jehovah would rebuild the kingdom of David, but only in a spiritual sense. The kingdom of David was to be built under another David, Jesus Christ. He would make the kingdom "as in the days of old," that is it would flourish as it did then.

From this study one may learn that Jehovah was going to set His hand a second time to restore the kingdom to Israel and that he was going to build again the tabernacle of David. All of these passages have been given and studied to show that it has been prophesied that Jehovah would restore Israel, spiritual Israel, and that all this was accomplished under Jesus Christ and we are in His kingdom, the restored remnant today.

In our next article we will learn where this kingdom was to start and some of the characteristics of this kingdom from the minor prophets. (T.A.Isaacs)

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THIS IS NO POEM

This is no poem, And by now you
realize it.
But isn't it odd how you keep on
reading it?

Some people are like this when
it comes to the church.
They realize that they are hurt-
ing it, but just keep on.

Since you are still reading this,
and you are,
Let me take this opportunity to
encourage you to attend-
Bible study both on Sun. morning
and Wednesday night.
Be here at Ten o'clock on Sunday
morning and on Sun. night.

(adapted-Gospel Light-Mar.1,'59)

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP

Carolina Bible Camp is now in the midst of preparation for its fourth year of operation. According to the plans already made for the camp for this year, it looks like this year's camp will be the best in its history. At a meeting of the directors of the camp, held Feb.2, 1959, in Charlotte, many decisions were made to improve the camp.

Two week Camp. This year the camp will be in operation for two full weeks. You can either attend one or both weeks. The cost for one week is still $15.50;for two weeks the cost is $31.00. Almost every camper asked that the camp be extended to two weeks.

Improved Facilities. The possibility of providing shower stalls, shower ramps, and other such improvements was discussed. All these improvements are being made so that you will enjoy camp more this year, than ever before.

Improved Counciling and Instructing Offered. There will be a better system of counciling this year so that you will get more out of the camp. Also more thorough and varied instruction will be offered. Life-guard courses will be conducted and certificates will be awarded.

More and Better Food. Due to the fact that Mrs. Jim Binkley will be in charge of the kitchen, you can expect more and better food. (I can smell her delicious, hot, home-made rolls now.)

Dates for the Camp? Yes, there will be plenty of fine Christian boys and girls to date during the camp session. Oh, you mean the dates of the camp's opening and closing. (Pardon me!) August 9-22 is it.

Reservations. More will be said later about reservations. See you in camp this summer.

PREACHER'S FELLOWSHIP

On the first Tuesday in each month, the preachers in this area meet together for lunch and to talk together regarding the needs, accomplishments, etc. of the congregations. The meeting for the month of March is to be held at 12:00 in Charlotte, N.C. at 1013 Myrtle Ave. Attend these meetings when you can.

NOTICE

For pictures to be run in this paper, please submit glossy photographs, as we cannot use cuts or mats.

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

"Herald of Truth"
WCOS,Columbia,S.C. ---- 7:30 P.M.
WGNC,1450,Gastonia,N.C. 2:30 P.M.
WECT,Chl.6,Wilmington -- NOON
WJMX---------- 2:30 P.M.
WKIX ---------- 2:30 P.M.
WKIT,Durham,N.C.------- 5:30 P.M.
WLOS,Chl.13,Asheville --- 9:00 A.M.
Regular
WDNC, Durham,N.C. ----- 9:15A.M.
WGTN, 1400---------- 2:30 P.M.
WACA, 1590 ---------- 8:40 A.M.
WABZ, Albemarle,N.C.----- 8:45 A.M.
WBCU, 1460---------- 9:00 A.M.

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WCGD ---------- 11:45 A.M.

THURSDAY

WWBD,Bamberg,S.C. -----11:45 A.M.

FRIDAY

WSPA-TV,Chl.7,Spartanburg-7:45 A.M.

SATURDAY

WACA,1590 ---------- 5:00 P.M.
WMNC ---------- 9:30 A.M.
WBCU---------- 6:45 P.M.

"Fool's Hill"

By James S. Woodroof



"Growing up"! My, what a job it is!! It's the most difficult task that a young person encounters. Accomplish that one task and you'll have "the world on a string"; fail to grow up and the world will probably end up with YOU on the string".

I'm not talking about growing up physically - that's no problem. The 'task supreme' is growing up emotionally, spiritually and socially into a well-rounded, mature Christian young man or woman. In the inspired biographies of Jesus, we read that as a young man Jesus "grew in wisdom(emotionally) and in stature(Physically) and in favor with God (spiritually) and men (socially)". Jesus left us a good example, didn't he?

The years "Twix Twelve and Twenty" are some of the most trying times in life. (Incidently, get a copy of Pat's book and read it over and over again - it's excellent!) My older sister, Bettye, used to make this disparaging remark to me as I was going through those years - "Oh, if you ever get up Fool's Hill, I want to see it." You've probably heard the expression used and probably had the same thing said to you. But remember - those that say that to you had to get up that same hill. So don't feel like you're an "oddity" - you're not; and with some good road signs along the way, you'll make it and make it safely.

"Fool's Hill" - that pretty well describes it, doesn't it! Well, it pretty well describes it to everyone but the 'fool' going up it. Because most of the time, those on this hill never realize that they're on "till they're over it-then it's too late to profit by it. Of course I realize that all young people who are reading this article think that you have already climbed this hill and that you won't need this advice. Well, maybe so. But if I were you, I believe I would read a little further, so you can recognize this trait in others - you know - in your mother and father, brothers and sisters!?!

"What's happening to me?" On the way up Fool's Hill so many things will happen to you, you'll hardly believe it. Your physical and emotional structure undergoes such a drastic change that each day when you look at yourself in your "inner" mirror you'll hardly recognize yourself. Sure - but you like this new self that you see, don't you? And don't feel ashamed of these new developments - God is the author of them.!

The physical and emotional changes that you can see startle you! As a boy - your vocie begins to change and you like talking low, so you practice that. You begin to grow a beard and you like that, so one day you experiment with your dad's razor. You discover that the "little girl next door" is really not a brat at all, but right cute - in fact she's down right pretty. As a girl - you're through with your tomboyish ways. You doff the jeans and don the dress. You begin to expect older boys to notice you and of course consider yourself more mature than the boys your age .

On and on I could go, but you know what I"m saying. And young people, you need some good advice to get through those years. Ask your mother and father to sit down with you and help you with your problems. It will save you some heartaches and maybe much more!!

"But I know all there is to know." "You must have forgotten that I'm sixteen years old, and I feel like I'm pretty mature.! That's one of the sure signs that you're still "wet behind the ears". Actually, maturity alone shows you just how immature you really are. Boy, oh Boy! "Green as a goard and twice as hard headed!!" I know! I was a teenager once - it hasn't been long ago either.

"FOOL"S HILL"

"Mom and Dad are so old fashioned." "I don't see anything wrong with this . . ." "What's wrong with that?" These are typical expressions of teenagers, and it is typical I guess because self expression raises its head (hard and empty though it may be) strongly in those years. But young people - you listen to your mothers and fathers. They have been up that same Fool's Hill. They know where every rut and bump and crevis is. Listen to them- There are possibly a few things that you don't know. They aren't as ignorant as you may think.

"The world is passing me by." As a young Christian, you'll find yourself saying many times - "Everybody else does it, why can't I." "I won't be popular if I don't do it too." But don't believe it. This earth is not controlled by people who "follow the crowd"; neither will following the crowd cause you to be more highly esteemed by the crowd. But if you will stand firm in your God-guided convictions, the world will beat a path to your door and you'll be "anointed with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." The world didn't pass Jesus by. Nay! He changed the whole course of human destiny. And you, as a follower of Jesus, can do the same thing.

Jesus had to "grow up" just like you are doing. He was "Tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin". You can do it successfully too, if you'll follow in His Steps.

Teen-age News

ANDERSON, S.C. On September 7, 1958, a class was begun here for the young people. Our attendance was fine-about 15 or 17. Later the class was divided into several classes. This was well received and attendance has grown rapidly. Once each month all the classes meet together to discuss ways of improving and increasing our classes. On March 1, we are starting a class for the young married people.

The young people of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Pray that God will be with us in these classes and guide our steps.

GREENVILLE, S.C., Buncombe Rd. In the absence of a regular teacher, the male teenagers here are getting some experience in the teaching field. Our attendance on Sunday mornings averages 12-15.

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Plaza @ McClintock. The young people here are most happy with the fact that they had 33 young people with perfect attendance at Bible study in 1958.

SINGING. There will be a teenage singing on March 1, 1959, at Duncan, S. C. at 3:00 P.M. Plan to Attend!!

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS

ASHEVILLE, N.C., 54 Vance St.
Waymon Love, Evangelist

The church here had its beginning on Aug. 5, 1951 with 17 persons who met in the American Legion Hall. In Jan. 1953, a lot was purchased and by Aug., 1954, we were meeting in the basement of our building with 50 present for morning worship. During 1954 and 1955 about 15 persons were baptised. Bro. Frank Johnson, who had been preaching for us, resigned in Oct., 1955. For some time we were without a located preacher. In Aug., 1957, Bro. Love and family moved nere and began working with the support of the Red Bank congregation, Chattanooga, Tenn. Our present membership is 53 and our regular morning worship attendance is 63 with an average contribution of $83.00. During the past year we have completed several projects: 1. publication of "The Vis-

itor" with about 450 copies per month; 2. other Christian publications have been distributed; 3. a pantry for the needy was started; 4. construction on the upper portion of the building was begun and with the help of persons from many places it will be finished about March 15. Besides these projects several new classes were started, radio and T.V. programs supported. We also helped in a Vacation Bible School, the Blue Ridge Encampment, and the Carolina Bible Camp.

GREENVILLE, S.C., 2 Marble Street
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist.

A gospel meeting is planned here for April 5-15. Bro. G. F. Gibbs, Lawrenceburg, Tenn. will be the speaker. Another meeting with Bro. Lexie B. Ray as speaker will be held June 21-28. Plan to attend if you can. We are happy to report that our Bible study attendance on Feb. 15, 1959, set a new record of 135 present. This is the highest record in three years. Thus far this month we have had three to confess wrong.

COLUMBIA, S.C., 2925 Devine St.
Neal Roberts, Evangelist.

Wednesday, February 18, 1959, we had 111 persons for Bible study. This is a record high. On February 8, 1959, we had 190 present for morning worship and about 150 for evening service. The ladies class has had the greatest increase. They now have over 25 present at meetings. Our average contribution for January, 1959 was $402.40. Remember our meeting here on March 8-17 with Bro. V.P. Black and Bro. Frank Thomas doing the speaking.

GEORGETOWN, S.C., Kensington Subdivision, Highway 701.
Johnny C. Sewell, Evangelist.

The church here is engaged in a building project which will provide 5 additional classrooms and a baptistry by constructing an extention to the back of the present building. The present structure will be remodled to allow one classroom and a nursery, rest rooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 70. Work has already begun. A loan could not be secured locally and was made possible by the Wingate congreation, Nashville, Tenn. The contribution here has increased from an average of $40.00 per week in 1958 to an average of $60.00 per week in 1959. Three were baptised in January. This brings the total membership up to 35. Bro. Glenn Killom, Jacksonville, Florida will hold a meeting for us, along with a Vacation Bible School beginning August 16. Much good has been done here with religious articles appearing in the local newspaper monthly, by our weekly radio program and by personal work.

GASTONIA, N.C., S.Broad @ E. 4th St.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist.

We have had two baptisms thus far this year. Also we have replaced our baptistry and bought a projector for use in cottage meetings.

CHESTER, S.C. 135 Saluda St.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

The congregation here hopes to be in its new building on March 8. We are confident that the work will show a steady increase when we are in our new house of worship. Bro. C. W. Bradley of Winston-Salem, N.C. will conduct the initial meeting. Numerous efforts are being employed to teach the people of this area. "The Bible Hour" we believe is being heard by thousands each week day. The Dial-a-Devotion service receives hundreds of calls per day. There are 25 enrolled in our Bible correspondence course. Weekly articles have been appearing in the local "Chester Reporter", including two that were used by the "Gospel Press." Since the work began in Chester, we have used the cottage meeting method to much success. We are now using the "Carolina Messenger of Truth" in our personal work.

GREENSBORO, N.C., 811 w. Wendover
O. P. Baird, Evangelist

January 25 attendance records for all three services were broken again. We had 121 for Bible study, 169 morning worship, and 106 for evening worship. We had one baptism this month. On Feb. 7 Bro. Baird announced that he would not be working with the church here after school was out. If you live in Charlotte or if you are visiting there dial BR 5-4557 for a devotional message.

DUNCAN, S.C., Route # 1
Milton S. Parker, Evangelist

The church here invites you to attend a series of gospel meetings from April 1-12. Bro. Virgil Richie, Rockmart, Ga. will do the preaching. There will be a singing on March 29 here at Duncan at 3:00 P.M. We encourage you to be present and enjoy this period of fellowship.

Bro. Parker began work here in August, 1958. We have made some progress. Attendance at all services has increased and the contribution has increased. There have been three confessed sins. We have been conducting a training class for the men and boys. On Monday nights we have a singing from house to house and on Friday nights a visiting program. In addition to the announced meeting, we will have another meeting in September with Bro. Roy Burgess.

The church here has a tent for use in the Carolinas. The only date taken for this year is July 12-19. Anyone needing a tent may contact the elders here.

CLEMMONS, N.C. Route 1, Warner's Chapel
Darrell E. Beard, Evangelist.

The church at Warner's Chapel is one of the oldest in the Carolinas, being established about 1886. It is fully self-supporting and gives financial assistance to some of the congregations here in North Carolina as well as to the work in France. Attendance at the Sunday morning worship averages about 140 with a contribution of about $200.00. The first Sunday evening in February, we began a teacher's training class with an enrollment of 20. Bro. Beard and family have been here since July, 1957.

CHARLESTON, S.C., Sans Souci @ Hester St.
Rawden L. Bullard, Evangelist.

During Jan., 1959, we had an average contributions of $154.25, with average attendance at morning worship of 78. This was short of our goal but we are pressing onward. On Feb. 1 our contribution was $176.00. Pray for the work here.

ABBEVILLE, S.C., Haigler St.
no preacher

This is a new congregation with about 12 members. At present we have no located preacher. Brethren from Greenville, S.C. Augusta and Atlanta, Ga. have been helping with the work here. We ask for your prayers that we may grow in number and faith. Anyone who wishes to contact the church here may write to R. L. Barbour, 141 Haigler St.

VALDESE, N.C., Eldred at Pons St.
James A. Davis, Evangelist.

Last Sunday morning, Feb. 8, we had 45 present for morning worship, and a contribution of $112.12. There are 22 active members of the church in Valdese, and on March 1st the congregation will have been meeting in it's present building for two years. The building was purchased at a cost of $20,000 and the debt has been reduced to $12,125. We have a 30 minute radio program. We are conducting Bible correspondence courses, have training classes in progress each Sunday evening for every age group. In addition, we have a teacher training course. Our hopes are for a good growth in this county of 45,000 people.

MOORE, S.C.
U.A. Hall, Evangelist

The church here is growing. We have had six restorations in the past three weeks. God helps those who help themselves. Pray for us that we may put forth every effort for good.

UNION, S.C., P. O. Box 64
James S. McDonald, Jr., Evangelist.

Bro. Sam Norman will conduct a gospel meeting here in May. We are looking forward to this meeting. Since the beginning of the year, we have had five restorations. Our average attendance during January of this year was 87.5 at morning worship and 74.8 at Bible study, with 54 at evening worship and 40.3 at Wednesday evening services.

BURLINGTON, N.C., 511 Baldwin Rd.
Bruce R. Curd, Evangelist.

We are happy to report that since July, 1958, we have had seven baptisms and one restoration. In addition there has been a 100% increase in our contributions. Our plans for this year include a gospel meeting in April with Bro. Willie Lemons doing the preaching. We also plan a vaction Bible school. A personal visit is paid to all newcomers to Burlington, inviting them to all our services. We believe this will do great good. We know God has richly blessed us in the past and we covet your prayers for the future.

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Plaza at McClintock
T. A. Issacs, Evangelist

We had a record attendance of 166 for Bible study on the last Sunday in Jan. We are proud of this number but not satisfied. Our mailing address here has been changed to P. O. Box 9334, Charlotte 5, N.C. Don't forget the Carolina Lectureship to be held here April 6-10.

WILMINGTON, N.C., 215 S.17th St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

On Feb. 15, we set a new attendance record of 103. This week we completed the tile laying project in the basement. The new flooring greatly improves our Bible study facilities. We have added two long tables in the audio-visual room in the basement and plan to meet one Friday night of each month for a "Get-Acquainted" period. This past week we purchased a bus from the school board in the adjoining county. Some expense and labor will be involved in putting it in first class condition. When this is done we will begin to bring children and adults to Bible study and worship service. We would appreciate knowing about any other congregation in the Carolinas or elsewhere that is presently using a bus in this way. March 16-20 is the date for our gospel meeting. Two lessons will be presented each evening, the first directed primarily to the church, and the second dealing with first principles. The speakers will be: C.T. Kidwell, Nelson Smith, Ray D. Fullerton, Frank Milton, Harold Scott, Johnny Sewell, W.N. Jackson, Tom Roberts, Bill Wilder, and Ronald McRay.

Last minute news from this congregation states that a new record attendance has been set. They had 108 for morning worship and 66 for evening worship on Feb. 22. An afternoon meeting in Whiteville, N.C. resulted in a record attendance of 48 persons.

CHARLOTTE, N.C., 1013 Myrtle Ave.
Sam Norman, Evangelist

The congregation here has begun construction of a new building. The new building will seat over 240 persons. Our average contribution was $141.69 weekly during 1958. At present we can account for $20,000 toward the $30,000 needed to complete the new building.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS. WE ENJOY PRINTING THEM. OTHERS ENJOY READING THEM. DON'T DEPEND ON THE PREACHER. HE IS A BUSY MAN. MAY WE SUGGEST THAT YOU SELECT SOMEONE FOR THIS JOB. THE 20th OF EACH MONTH IS THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRY.

GREENVILLE, S.C., Augusta Rd., Hwy. 25
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

We set a new record in attendance in Jan. at the 11:00 A.M. service. The average each week was 105. This exceeded our old record of 100 set in Jan. and Oct., 1958.

SHELBY, N.C., 701 Blanton St.
Raymond E. Smith, Evangelist

This congregation was established by Bro. Everett N. Bean. He and his family moved to Calhoun, Tennessee last summer. From the time he left until the time that Bro. Smith began work here, February, 1959, preachers from other congregations helped in supplying the preaching. Several notable events have taken place during the past three Sunday morning worship services. February 8, Bro. Monty Silvers was home from the Navy (Bro. Silvers was very instrumental in keeping the work going while the church was without a preacher.) February 15, three families from Gastonia, N.C. visited with us. February 22, Sis. Bonnie Bolt visited with us and placed her membership here. This made a total of seven members here. Our average attendance is 15.6 with the contribution averaging $13.75 per week. As yet we do not have any outside financial support; we are in need of support here.

BOLING SPRINGS, S.C.
John R. Rout, Evangelist

The church here was established in Aug., 1957, by Bro. Bill Lindsey, Central congregation, Spartanburg, S.C. He began by teaching a small group of colored persons. Last year 25 were baptized. The average attendance is 35. Bro. Rout is from Spartanburg, S.C.

TRACTS AVAILABLE

HISTORICITY OF CHURCHES

DEAD, BURIED, AND RAISED WITH CHRIST
by Burl Curtiss

DANGERS OF THE GOSPEL
by C. W. Bradley

WHY NOT BE JUST A CHRISTIAN

25-$1.25; 50-$2.00; 100-$3.00

SCRIPTURAL BAPTISM (leaflet) $ .01 ec.

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES-$5.00-100.

HE TOLD THE TRUTH

A preacher's mail brought a request which read as follows: "Will you please tell us all about Mr. A., his character and financial responsibility? He has given you as a reference."

The minister's reply ran: "I found his name on the register when I came here. His family does not attend services and neither does he. The reason given is it is the only morning he has to sleep, so it is impossible for him to get up on Sunday. He is not on the treasurer's books, so I cannot tell you anything of his financial obligations. In fact, so far as I know he has not assumed any -- at least to the church. As requested, I have told you all I know of Mr. A."

He sent a copy of the reply to Mr. A. with the comment that he was holding up the request until he heard from him. Was Mr. A. burned up! Among the things he proceeded to tell the preacher was, "Why any minister worthy of his name would know that a man's relationship to the church and his financial contributions to such are of a confidential nature."

The preacher then sent the following letter to the original questioner, with a copy to Mr. A. "All I know about the gentleman in question is of a confidential nature, and he explicitly requested that I do not tell the truth."

(The Wendover Messenger-Jan. 8, 1959.)

GOSPEL MEETINGS

WOODRUFF, S.C. The meeting here will be held from April 12-19. Bro. Roy Burgess of Woodbury, Tenn. will be the speaker.

COLUMBIA, S.C. 2925 Devine St. Bros. V. P. Black and Frank Thomas will be the speakers each evening of our meeting starting March 8 through March 17.

CHESTER, S.C. On March 8 our building will be completed. Bro. C. W. Bradley will hold the initial meeting.

WILMINGTON, N.C. Our meeting here will be held March 16-20, with two lessons each night. Our speakers will be Bros. Ronald McKay, Bill Wilder, Tom Roberts, W. N. Jackson, Johnny Sewell, C. T. Kidwell, Nelson Smith, Ray Fullerton, Frank Milton, and Harold Scott.

DUNCAN, S.C. During our meeting, April 1-12, Bro. Virgil Richie, Rockmart, Georgia will speak on the following themes: "Preach the Word", "Sin", "Repentance", "The Importance of the Lord's Supper", "The Importance of the Church", "Why are You not Saved?" and many others.

GREENVILLE, S.C. 2 Marble St. Bro. G. F. Gibbs of Lawrenceburg, Tenn. will be the speaker each evening, April 5-12 in a series of gospel meetings.

KANNAPALIS, N.C. A singing school conducted by Bro. Sam Durance will be held each evening at 7:15 during the meeting here April 20-24 with Bro. Sam Norman, Evangelist.

TRYON, N.C. April 5-15. (Evangelist not listed.)

SINGINGS

Troy, N.C.-March 1, 1959- 3:00 P.M.
Greenville, S. C., Judson-April 12, 1959-3:00 P.M.
Asheville, S.C., Vance St.-March 15, 1959-3:00 P.M.
(New Building Opening)
Duncan, S.C.-March 29, 1959-3:00 P.M.

"PROVE ALL THINGS; HOLD FAST THAT WHICH IS GOOD"

Several years ago I was talking with a man who believed the world was flat and square, rather than round. I reasoned with him to the effect that it had been indisputably proved that the earth was circular, that daily flights around the world proved it to be oval. Nevertheless, his mind was set. Regardless of what had been proved, is a definite fact, unanimously accepted in scientific circles as to the shape of the earth, my friend blindly held to the idea that the world is flat and square and should a person travel far enough on the surface of the earth, he would fall of.

This illustration has applications in religion. I Thess. 5:21, "prove all things, hold fast that which is good." The word "prove" (dokimazo in Greek) means to test examine, prove, scrutnize, to see whether a thing be geniune or not." Every practice we observe and every belief preached is to be examined and investigated in the scriptures, not accepted blindly in religion. That which is in harmony with the scriptures is right. That which is contrary to the scripture is wrong. Jer. 11:3., "Cursed be the man that heareth not the words of this covenant." Regardless of what we may or may not have believed or practiced previously, if something is shown us from the scriptures that God says we have no alternative but to accept it. It is just as foolish to hold an opinion or practice in religion contrary to the gospel as it is to believe the world is square.

Jer. 3:10 speaks of a people who "refused to hear Gods words." Jesus rebuked his hearers. Matt. 13:15. "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest haply they should perceive with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should turn again, and I should heal them."

These people were so prejudiced against Jesus and his teaching that they simply paid no attention to him and without sincere investigation, they refused his teaching and persecuted him. But remember that this prejudice didn't change the facts of religion in the least. What he said was true and will meet all men in the last great day. It is foolish to refuse to hear the scriptures, just as it is absurd to say the world is square.

Someone might say, "That's just the way you see the shape of the earth. I see it differently and think it's square." This does not make sense. It's either square or it's not. So with the Bible. What it says is so and can be understood as to life and duty. Those who refuse to heed it will face the gospel they refused to study and obey at judgement. It will then not be a question of how you saw it, but rather of whether or not we believed and obeyed it.

Be sincere, study diligently, prove all things, hold fast to that which is good.

(This article appeared in the February 19, 1959, issue of "The Georgetown Times", Georgetown, S.C. and is typical of a series of articles usdd by the Church of Christ there to spead the gospel of Christ.

CAROLINA LECTURES
April 6-10

Don't forget the Carolina Lectures to be held at the Plaza congregation, Charlotte, North Carolina, April 6-10.

The elders of the Jackson Park congregation in Nashville, Tenn. are sending Bro. Jim Kinney to the Carolina Lectures this year to teach a class each afternoon from 1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. on "Planning and Carrying Out the Work of the Local Church. We urge all preachers and members to take advantage of this class. We are very grateful to the elders at the Jackson Park congregation for sending Bro. Kinney to help with the lectures.

Many other fine messages are being planned for the lectures. More information regarding this event will be in the Apr. issue of this publication.



Carolina Messenger of Truth

April 1959

STAFF ANNOUNCED

by Burl Curtis

For some time Bro. John Avants has asked that I serve as editor of the "Carolina Messenger of Truth". After being assured by him that his printing facilities will continue to be made available to the "Messenger" staff, I am happy to serve with the paper in this capacity. Hereafter, all editorial material, except news, should be addressed to me at P. O. Box 3324, Station A, Greenville, S. C. Bro. Edward Davis, Seneca, S. C. has volunteered to work as news editor and he will give his attention to gathering news from all congregations in the Carolinas, organizing and assisting a reporting staff, and presenting special news features. Bro. Dabney Phillips will serve as Business Manager and will have as his chief obligation regarding the paper the promotion of circulation. Neither the editorial staff nor the staff writers will receive any financial remuneration.

The purpose of the "Carolina Messenger of Truth" shall be two-fold: (1) to serve as a medium of teaching the truth of the Bible by articles which shall appear in each issue; (2) to report news of the Lord's people in both states. This is a purpose to which all of you can give your full support.

The Lord willing, this publication SHALL CONTINUE. Perhaps you have heard it said, "I thought it was something that would die out in a few months." It shall continue because many members of the church in both North and South Carolina have long wished for such a publication. It shall continue because Carolina Christians are alert and recognize a good opportunity when they see one. It shall continue because the equipment is available to the "Messenger" for its continued publication.

I have had little experience in this type of work and I now ask your prayers in my behalf. Editorial policy can be briefly stated thus: If in doubt - don't print it. Romans 14:23. Since there are so many hundreds of things we are all sure about, we will always give our space to these.

Since our purpose is not profit, we hope, for all the good that it will do, that this paper will go into many homes. Buy it and use it. Dabney Phillips, as he keeps seeing "red" will be contacting you and asking your help in obtaining subscriptions. We hope that all of you will take an active interest in this project.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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THE MESSIANIC PROPHESY FROM THE MINOR PROPHETS

BY T. A. ISAACS

(Please read article no. 1 in March issue this publication.)



In our first article we studied the phrase "the day of Jehovah", in an effort to ascertain the meaning of this phrase. We learned from that study that the "day of Jehovah" is a day of judgment to the enemies of God and a day of deliverance for His people.

We also learned from our study together in the last issue that Jehovah was going to set His hand a second time to restore the kingdom to Israel and that he was going to build again the tabernacle of David. Several passages were given and discussed to show that it has been prophesied that Jehovah would restore Israel, spiritual Israel, and that all this was accomplished under Jesus Christ and we are in His kingdom, the restored remnant today.

Let us look now and see from the prophets where the kingdom was to start. The prophet Micah in Chapter 3, verses 1 through 5 shows that Zion was to be the center of the universal religion which Jehovah here promises. But one may ask, where is this Zion? First, let us look at Micah 3:2. The "Holy Mountain", "Mountain of Jehovah" and "Zion" in verse 2 refer to Jerusalem. This can be established from the following passages: Daniel 9:16, "Let thine anger and thy wrath, I pray thee, be turned away from thy 'City Jerusalem', thy 'Holy Mountain'." Then also in Zechariah 8:3, "thus saith Jehovah: I am returned unto 'Zion', and will dwell in the midst of 'Jerusalem': and 'Jerusalem' shall be called the city of truth; and the mountain of Jehovah of hosts, 'The Holy Mountain'." These verses establish the fact that all these terms apply to Jerusalem, from which the law and the word of Jehovah should go forth. Further proof can be offered from a parallel passage, Isaiah 2: 2-4, "And it shall come to pass in the latter days, that the 'Mountain of Jehovah's' house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. And many peoples shall go and say, come Ye, and let us go up to the 'Mountain of Jehovah', to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for out of 'Zion' shall go forth the law and the word of Jehovah

from 'Jerusalem'." The Lord himself told His disciples in Luke 24: 47-49 that these things would happen "beginning from Jerusalem" In Acts 2 we find the apostles in Jerusalem waiting for the promise that Christ had made them concerning the Holy Spirit and when it came upon them the "law", and the "Word of Jehovah" went forth through these chosen men. The writer of the Hebrew letter in Chapter 12: 22 says, speaking to the Hebrew Christians, "but ye are come unto Mount Zion and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem". The law started from Jerusalem and those by the grace of God that keep the law shall see the anti-type of that physical Jerusalem in the home that awaits them, "the heavenly Jerusalem".

Let us notice next two or three characteristics of this kingdom that was to be established. First, one may look at the extent of the promised kingdom. In Hosea 1: 10 Jehovah speaking through the prophet turns from His condemnation and judgment of physical Israel, to spiritual Israel, the kingdom He says the "number of the children of Israel (spiritual Israel) shall be as the sand of the sea". In other words those that would turn to him for salvation in His kingdom would be so numerous that they could not be counted or measured. Zechariah also shows the unlimited extent of the kingdom in Zec. 9: 10b where he says, "His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth". The new kingdom was not as the kingdoms of that day. It had no borders or boundaries. The same is true today of this kingdom and certainly this places a tremendous responsibility on every citizen of the kingdom of God to take the weapon of this kingdom, "the word of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" to "every nation under heaven".

Micah sets forth the next characteristics of the kingdom which we should like to mention. In 5:8 the prophet says, "and the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep; who, if he go through, treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and there is none to deliver." This verse sets forth the power that is to characterize this new kingdom. This does not mean that this power is to come through carnal sources, from wars and fightings, but through the power of God this peaceful new kingdom would devour, eat away, the other kingdoms of the world, by the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. All the power that the child of God has comes through Him and His Word and not through some carnal force. In this same chapter of Micah, verses 10-15 Jehovah teaches that those in the new kingdom were to rely on Him for strength and not on man-made sources. One may see through the figures of "cutting off they horses" "I will cut off the cities of thy land", "I will cut off thy witchcrafts", "I will cut off thy graven images", "I will pluck up thy Asherim", etc., that Jehovah in this new kingdom, a spiritual kingdom, would take away anything the people might rely on for strength and teach them to rely on the only true and living God, Jehovah. We in His kingdom today could learn a very fine lesson from this in that we should throw away the "idols" and "horses" we sometimes lean upon, and turn to Jehovah and lean upon His mighty and powerful arm.

Another outstanding characteristic of this kingdom is that it was to be a peaceful kingdom. In Micah 4:3 the writer says: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore". In this

kingdom there would not be strife and turmoil and war as of a physical kingdom, but there would be peace and also security as verse 4 of this same chapter shows: "But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts hath spoken it. . . "Isaish 11:9 also will help us to understand the peaceful nature of the kingdom. There the prophet says: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Jehovah". How true it is that when the world today becomes full of the "knowledge of Jehovah", then we too may know the peace that should characterize the kingdom of Jehovah. In any controversey that prevails among the people of God's kingdom today there is a lack of the "knowledge of Jehovah" on the part of someone. The "knowledge of Jehovah" makes for peace in the kingdom of God. Therefore, may each one of us determine to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" that peace may prevail in the kingdom of God. Jehovah speaking through the prophet Zechariah also tells us that he "will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse (symbol of strength) from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off; and he shall speak peace unto the nations." Also in 3: 10 this same prophet says "in that day (the day of Jehovah will do these things) saith Jehovah of hosts, shall ye invite every man his neighbor under the vine and under the fig tree."

The last characteristic of this kingdom that we shall notice is that it was to be an eternal kingdom. It would not be as the physical kingdoms of that day, that thrived only for a little while, but this was to be an eternal kingdom. In Micah 4: 7, the prophet says, "Jehovah will reighn over them in Mount Zion from henceforth even for ever." This brings to mind the statement of the spostle Paul in writing to the Hebrew Christians: "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which CANNOT BE MOVED, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." We should be thankful that there is no power that is able to destroy the kingdom of Jehovah, and show our gratitude by having faith in the promises of Jehovah and spreading the borders of His eternal kingdom.

Are you a member, a citizen, of this powerful, peaceful, eternal kingdom that had its beginning in the city of Jerusalem over 1900 years ago on that first Pentecost after Jesus Christ had been raised? If not, you can be, because Jesus died that you might be. Before he was crucified, a ruler of the Jews came to Jesus one night to talk with him. Jesus told this ruler of the Jews, Nicodemus, "Except a man be born of the water and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God". Be born of the water and of the spirit that you may become a citizen in the kingdom of God.

If you are already a citizen of this kingdom, it is my fervent prayer that these studies together will increase your faith in the kingdom of God and in Him who is "king of kings and lord of lords."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Cover photo supplied by courtesy of Chamber of Commerce, Easley, South Carolina, depicting typical mountain scene in the Smokies.

UNDENOMINATIONAL CHRISTANITY

BY C. W. BRADLEY



A few years ago on a Sunday night after the worship period was over, my wife and I were eating a sandwich in a restaurant. Sitting near us was a group of people whose conversation indicated that they were members of a local denominational church. A visiting preacher was with them and they entered into a discussion of the doctrines of various religious groups. One woman mentioned a group with whom she was acquainted who claimed to be undenominational. The preacher stated that many have been the efforts to have undenominational Christianity but said he, "It's impossible for such to exist for just as soon as they organize they become a denomination."

Although I did not think it proper for me to enter into their conversation, I could not help thinking about the farewell prayer of our Saviour recorded in John 17: 20-21: "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word that they may be one, as thou Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they may also be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."

Is it impossible for undenominational Christianity to exist today? He who makes such a claim is saying that the church of the New Testament cannot exist today for the church built by our Lord was not and never will be a denomination. Almost two thousand years ago the church of our Lord was established in the city of Jerusalem. It was composed of all baptized believers. Those, who on the day of Pentecost, repented and were baptized for the remission of their sins were added to the church. The Lord did the adding when man met the conditions of forgiveness (Acts 2: 28 and 47.) If It was a denomination, will someone please tell us which denomination it was? Surely all will agree that it was just the Lord's church, that the members were just Christians and were members of no denomination. In fact, none of the denominations around us today existed for many hundreds of years later.

If people today will, upon hearing the gospel of Christ and believing it, repent and be baptized for the remission of their sins just as those poeple on Pentecost did, will not the Lord still add them to that same church? If not, why not? Will not faith in the Lord and obedience to the same word produce the same results?

Now regarding the matter of organization. The only organization of the church that Jesus built is that of the local congregation. Each congregation is to have a plurality of elders or bishops who are to 'oversee' the work of that particular congregation (Acts 20: 28). They are to have no authority over any other Christians on earth. There is no scripture for any kind of organization of a number of congregations of God's people. Every congregation is an independent affair. Each is to carry on its own program of work without receiving orders from any earthly headquarters. Christ is the only head. You may study church history and you will learn that trouble has always come when an effort has been made to organize the church in any sense except that of each local congregation, and that is a very simple organization.

If in any community in the world today people hear the simple message of Christ, believe it and obey it just as the people did in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost will they not become members of God's church just as they did in Jerusalem? If a house of worship is built and these people assemble upon each Lord's day and worship in keeping with the directions of the New Testament, will they be a denomination? If they simply refer to themselves as Christians and members of the church of Christ, will this make them a denomination? If they select from among themselves men who have the qualifications given in I Tim. 3: 1-7 and Titus 1: 5-9 to oversee the work of the congregation, does that make them a denomination?

I believe with all my heart that it is possible for one to be a member of the church of Jesus Christ without being connected with any denomination on earth. That's exactly what I claim to be, and that's exactly what I am striving to get others to be. Yes, you can be just a Christian. If you will accept the pure word of God, unmixed with the additions and corruptions of men, you will become a member of the New Testament church. It takes something more than the word of God to make one a member of a denomination.

WHY NOT BE JUST A CHRISTIAN??

ABILENE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE LECTURESHIP

by BILL G. SMITH

It was my good pleasure to return to Abilene Christian College in February to attend the lectureship there. I was accompanied by Bro. Jimmy Dorris, Barnwell, S. C.; Bro. Frank Milton, Albemarle, N. C.; and Bro. R. Leonard Owens, Nashville, Tenn. We covered a total of 3100 miles on our trip. There were some 10,000 persons in attendance at the lectures.

A three piece display and an up-to-date report on the Carolinas was placed in the display tent for the week. This same material will be on display at the Carolina Lectureship in April.

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

"Herald of Truth"
WCOS, Columbia, S. C. -------7:30 P.M.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C. --2:30 P.M.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington, N. C. -Noon
WJMX----------2:30 P.M.
WKIX----------2:30 P.M.
WKIT, Durham, N. C. --------5:30 P.M.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville----- 9:00 A.M.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.------ 2:30 P.M.

Regular:
WDNC, Durham, N. C.------- 9:15 A.M.
WGTN, 1400---------- 2:30 P.M.
WACA, 1590---------- 8:40 A.M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.----- 8:45 A.M.
WBCU, 1460---------- 9:00 A.M.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.-- 8:45 A.M.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.--- 9:30 A.M.

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WCGD---------- 11:45 A.M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.------ 11:45 A.M.

FRIDAY

WSPA-TV, Chl. 7, Spartanburg-7:45 A.M.

SATURDAY

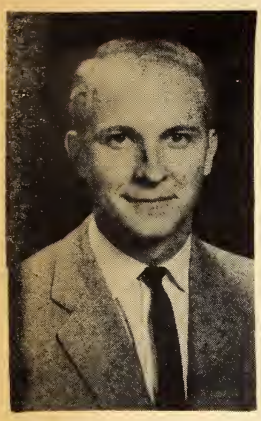
WACA, 1590---------- 5:00 P.M.
WMNC---------- 9:30 A.M.
WBCU---------- 8:45 P.M.

Monday, April 6		Tuesday, April 7	
1959 CAROLINA LECTURES	10:00 to 10:35	"The Purpose of Preaching" N. E. Sewell Wilmington, N. C.	"The
	10:40 to 11:15	"The Preacher, His Preparation and Training" Sewell Hall Camden, S. C.	"T
	11:20 to 11:55	"The Authority of the Preacher" Johnny Sewell Georgetown, S. C.	"T
	1:30 CLASSES 2:30	Planning and Carrying Out the Work of the Local Church Bro. Jim Kinney Jackson Park Church of Christ Nashville, Tennessee	
WELCOME! Lectures Start Monday, April 6, 1959 7:15 P. M. PLAZA CHURCH OF CHRIST 1216 The Plaza Charlotte, N. C.	2:35 to 3:10	"The New Birth" Brown C. Kinnard, Jr. Statesville, N. C.	"The
	3:15 to 3:50	"The Christian, A New Creature" Joe Riggs Rockingham, N. C.	
	3:55 to 4:30	"Christian Growth" William N. Jackson Florence, S. C.	"The C
SINGING: Bro. Sam Durrance, Leader	7:15	SINGING; Bro. Sam Durrance, Leader	SINGIN
"Who is A Christian?" Myron Keith Statesville, N. C.	7:30 to 8:05	"The Christian and Temptation" Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. Goldsboro, N. C.	
"The Christian Life a Paradox" James Woodroof West Columbia, S. C.	8:10 to 9:00	OPEN FORUM "The Christian and Carnal Warfare" Moderator: T. A. Issacs Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. Newton Gribble Nelson Smith Olin Hicks	"The Sam Nor Bobby R

sday, April 8	Thursday, April 9	Friday, April 10
NG SESSION - THEME: "THE PREACHER AND HIS WORK"		
His Attitude Toward is Work ırris Beard en, S. C.	"The Preacher and The Sermon" O. P. Baird Greensboro, N. C.	"The Preacher's Personal Character" Frank Milton Albemarle, N. C.
er and the Study"- tudy Habits, Etc. ton Gribble nbia, S. C.	"The Preacher and Personal Problems" Recreation, Finances, Family, Etc. Harold Scott Durham, N. C.	"The Preacher and Other Work"- Counseling, Visiting, Weddings, Funerals Dabney Phillips Chester, S. C.
r As A Teacher"- and Private son Smith ton, N. C.	"The Preacher and Church Problems" Neal Roberts Columbia, S. C.	"The Elder-Preacher Relationship" James A. McDonald, Jr. Union, S. C.
12:00 - LUNCH - 1:30		
NOON SESSION - THEME- "THE CHRISTIAN LIFE"		
as Tuesday	Same as Tuesday	Same as Tuesday
in Word and Thought" st Thigpen ville, S. C.	"The Christian and Singing" John Herrin Monroe, N. C.	"The Christian as A Steward" William Wilder Rocky Mount, N. C.
tian and Prayer" ll E. Beard ions, N. C.	"The Christian as A Personal Teacher" Rawden L. Bullard Charleston, S. C.	"The Christian as A Soldier" W. A. Respess, Jr. Fayetteville, N. C.
nd the Lord's Supper s A. Davis se, N. C.	"The Christian Home" Walter E. Neal Woodleaf, N. C.	"Lukewarm Christians" Bill G. Smith Greenville, S. C.
VENING SESSION - THEME- "THE CHRISTIAN LIFE"		
m Durrance, Leader	SINGING; Bro. Sam Durrance, Leader	SINGING; Bro. Sam Durrance, Leader
tian and Giving" ey Astin gh, N. C.	"The Christian and Godliness" J. D. Parker Winston-Salem, N. C.	"The Christian Must Live for Christ" Waymon Love Asheville, N. C.
FORUM nd His Recreation" T. A. Issacs Dabney Phillips Jack Byars	OPEN FORUM "The Christian, His Habits and Conduct" Moderator: T. A. Issacs Jim Woodroof J. L. Frazier J. O. Walters Burl Curtis	"Heaven, the Christian's Eternal Home" C. W. Bradley Winston-Salem, N. C.

"MANIFOLD TEMPTATIONS"

By James S. Woodroof



"Many-fold" temptations; "many and varied"temptations; "Multiplied" temptations. Why, that almost spells:"Teenager", doesn't it? There is no other expression that so aptly fits "growing up"as does this one-"many-fold temptations". What could better describe our going up "Fools' Hill" than to say: It is the "falling into" and "overcoming" of "manifold temptations". And the temptations that face Teenagers are manifold!! The world is using everything it has and throwing everything it possesses in the way of Teenagers to tempt you fine people.

But you know what? Teenagers are not the only ones who are blessed with temptation. Everybody - every normal human being on earth has temptations. Your mother and dad do; your aunt and uncle; "the preacher" does! Sure!! Don't expect to outgrow temptation when you finally outgrow your teens. No Sir! When you fine looking young men are bald-headed ole codgers whose "grinders have ceased because they are few" you'll still be tempted. The same is true of you young ladies! Temptation is mortality's constant companion Only when you put off mortality will you put off temptation. So, don't feel like you're an 'odd ball' because you face many temptations. You're no different from anyone else.

But why do we have to cope with temptations? That's a good question. One day Bro. A. C. Pullias made a statement at "Lipscomb High School Day", it makes a lot of sense - "Virtue is not the result of untried innocense, but of battles fought and won". Isn't this pretty comprehensive of the whole of life? You'll never be a mature person until you have met obstacles and overcome them!! For example- Have you ever know parents who so sheltered their baby that it became weak and sickly? And the first time a germ did get to it, it nearly died? The old Indians had a good idea; they may have been a little extreme, but . . . They would take their babies and soak them in salt water to toughen their skins, and then set them out in the cold to build up resistence!! (No wonder Indian men have no beard - I'd loose mine too . . .) But the principle was sound whether you apply it spiritually or physically. "Sheltering" the 'poor darling' is just not the answer! You young people ask your mother and dad to help you become equipped and prepared for the battle of life, and then ask them to stand by with you as a faithful ally as you wage your tremendous battle in life!!

Temptation, in and of itself, is not sin! Christ Jeuss was "tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin" (Heb. 4:15). Therefore, don't begin to foster a guilt complex because you experience temptation. Nay!! "Count it all joy my brethren when you fall into manifold temptations knowing that the proving of your faith worketh stedfastness." (Jas. 1: 2-3) "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation for when he hath been approved he shall receive the crown of life which the Lord promised to all them that love him." (Jas. 1: 12).

This article will be concluded in the next issue. The purpose of the article is to help you as a young person find

out where you are in relationship to the world; to help you recognize temptation when you see it; and to help you overcome those temptations so that you might receive the crown of life. Sin is so deceptive!! It wouldn't be a temptation if it were not deceptive. Sin reminds me of a little song that my boys listen to. Sin is like the crocodile in the sun.

"Never smile at a crocodile,
Never tip your hat and stop
to stay a while;
Don't be taken in by his silly
grin,
He's imagining how well you
would fit within his skin."

Teen-age News

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP NEWS

It won't be long now till you will want to send in your reservation for camp this summer. You will probably want to go both weeks, but if you just want to go for one, you may. There is so much in store for the campers this summer that you won't want to miss a single day.

One special feature of this year's camp that you will enjoy is the chorus. There will be singing classes every day just like last year, but this year we are going to have a chorus. We hope that you will enjoy this.

Special Bible classes for the older teenagers have always been an attraction. Chapel and evening services and devotionals before "lights out" are all high lights of the camp. Of course there is so much to do in recreation - swimming, ball games, horse shoes, ping pong, handcrafts, and many other things that you will enjoy.

And of course the food this year is going to be "out of this world". The camp's own Sis. Binkley is going to be in charge of the kitchen, and you can certainly expect the finest eats.

All of this and much more adds up to a wonderful time at CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP this summer. We'll see you then.

TEEN-AGE SINGING - Augusta Road church, Greenville, S. C. at 3:00P. M. on April 5, 1959.

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS

SPECIAL NOTICE !!

HENCEFORTH PLEASE SEND ALL NEWS REPORTS TO: B. EDWARD DAVIS, NEWS EDITOR, 706 ADAMS STREET, SENECA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

FLORENCE, S. C., 618 Gregg Ave.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist.

Increasing interest is being shown in every way. The "Herald of Truth" is being shown on our local station, WBTW-TV (Channel 8) and we expect much good from it. With our local program over WOLS radio, and the "Herald of Truth" over WJMX radio, the churches of Christ now have a total of one and one-half hours over local TV and radio each week. We are now concentrating on classes in the homes of non-members, and personal work. A husband and wife have recently been restored to duty. Joe Riggs, Rockingham, N. C. will do the preaching in our meeting, May 10-17th.

WEST COLUMBIA, S. C.
James S. Woodroof, Evangelist

March 1, 1959, marked the beginning of the second year of Bro. Woodroof's work at West Columbia. The past year has been one of encouragement and progress. We list these following results of last year. There has been a steady increase in every phase of the work. The attendance at the services has increased. The average attendance now is 105for Bible study; 120 for worship; and 100 for Sunday evening 60 to 70 on Wednesday night; and 30 to 35 for Ladies Bible Class. There have been 22 baptisms in the last 12 months; about 10 to place membership; and 5 to be restored. Cottage Bible classes are being conducted continually. There are wonderful opportunities here. Construction began last week on our new educational building. The building will have 9 classrooms and two rest rooms. The total cost to us will be about $18,000, though the estimated value (loan value) is over $23,000. This will give us 15 classrooms and an auditorium that will seat over 300 people. We are thankful for these facilities and we pray that they will be used to the utmost good. In all of this we give thanks to God and may it all be to His glory.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., 210 Helen St.
William A. Respess, Jr., Evangelist.

The work here is going along in a good way. We are having high records in attendance and good contributions. This being an army church we have lost quite a few of our old members and have gained several members that have just come from Germany. One was restored yesterday. I will complete my work with Fayetteville in September or before. I do not know the exact time because I do not know yet where I will go. Any preacher interested in coming to Fayetteville, please contact the church here.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Garner Rd.
(Fairview Heights)
No Preacher.

Sunday, March 22, we held the last service in our old building. Even though the new building is not ready for proper use, we are forced to move in and make the best of it. The concrete floor hasn't been poured and the yards are inadequate. About $800 is needed to complete this work. Installing the windows, doors and roofing was done on a 30-day charge account. We solicit the help of our brethren in having a place to worship. The preaching is being supplied by the brethren here and by the help of Bro. Bill Lindsey, Central congregation here. The first service in the new building will be on March 29 at the regular hour.

SHELBY, N. C. 701 Blanton St.
Raymond E. Smith, Evangelist.

Our attendance and contributions continue to increase. Last month the averages were: Attendance - 19 with contributions $14.62. A pantry was started to help the needy. We are beginning to use the Carolina Messenger of Truth in our personal work and believe that much good will be accomplished from such effots. Due to our preacher's illness, visiting preachers have helped with our morning worship service for the past three weeks. We are grateful to Bros. Rodger, Duncan, S. C.; Smith, Marion, N. C. and Regar, Gastonia, N. C.

GREENVILLE, S. C. (Judson) 2 Marble
Ernest thigpen, Evangelist

The work here continues to make some progress, and for this we are grateful to the Lord. Since our last report, we have had four to be restored and one to place membership. Again this month a new high was reached in

Lord's day morning Bible study attendance. On March 8 there were 140 present. We are looking forward to April 5-15 when Bro. G. F. Gibbs, Lawrenceburg, Tenn. will be with us in a gospel meeting. Bro. Gibbs is well-known to most of the members of the church in this area. He began the work here at Judson 37 years ago. He has been preaching for 47 years and is well qualified to teach and preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified. According to his figures, he has preached about 6,000 sermons in 18 states . . . taught hundreds of Bible classes . . . accepted the confessions of faith in Christ, of near 1000 pentitents . . . ministered in many weddings, funerals, sick homes . . . visited with thousands, both rich and poor, saint and sinner. We trust that many will come and visit with us during this effort to convert the lost to Christ.

TRYON, N. C., Hwy. 176
Carl E. Lancaster, Evangelist

This congregation has a meeting scheduled for April 6-14. Bro. Charles Lemons, Chattanooga, Tennessee will do the preaching. Services will be at 7:30 P. M. A daily radio program is also planned during the meeting. A singing will be held, April 12 at 3:00 P. M. Progress is slow but it is felt that a continous program of teaching is the solution. Our weekly radio program has been on the air now for more than four years. Six months ago the local radio station began broadcasting our entire 11:00 A. M. worship every four weeks as a public service. Students studying the Bible by correspondence, mail in around 80 lessons per month for grading. Teaching in cottage meetings continues to prove effective. Five were baptized last year and the congregation now numbers 35.

BOONE, N. C., Bristol Road
James L. Frazier, Evangelist

Bro. Bunting is now located in Canada and I succeeded him here at Boone on Jan. 4, 1959. Our meeting begins with Bro. Grey Flippen of Barnesville, Ga. April 16-26 and Bro. Noyles E. Sewell of Wilmington will be with us for a meeting June 4-11. Our increase in attendance has been considerably good and I have had the great joy of baptizing a young man and his wife last week, and with his family that brings six more in our attendance.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist.

Claude Grizzel was restored Sunday, March 15. Pray for this man that he may be a great help to us here. Our contribution March 8 was $185.90, largest we have ever had. Interest is still high. Our meeting with Bro. Bob Plunkett will begin April 12-19. There will be a singing at 3:00 P. M. on April 19. We invite everyone to be present.

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2201 N. Buncombe
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

Bro. Bill G. Smith was the guest speaker at both services, Sunday, March 15, 1959. During a meeting that night the brethren decided to ask Bro. Smith to work full-time with this congregation. He will start his work here on April 1, 1959. We ask that you pray for Bro. Smith and for this congregation.

VALDESE, N. C., Eldred at Pons St.
James A. Davis, Evangelist.

The past two Sundays have been "good days" in our work here. March 1st. we had 53 present for morning worship, and a contribution of $102.86. Last Sunday, March 8, we had 63 pre-

sent and a contribution of $112.85. Several of our visitors on March 1st. were from out of town and on March 8th. we had 24 girl scouts, including their leaders present. One of our little girls is a Brownie scout, so they decided to visit our services as part of their program. We were glad to have them, as it was an opportunity for them to see just what our worship is like, even though they were curious about some things, such as no organ or piano, and some of them were curious about the Lord's Supper. Recently we have had visitors present as a result of personal contact, and because they were enrolled in our Bible Correspondence Course.

DURHAM, N. C., Watts Street
Harold Scott, Evangelist

Our Sunday night attendance has been going steadily upward in the past three months. It hit a record high this past Sunday night, March 8. Only during the meeting last year about this time has the Sunday night attendance been higher. We had 57 present this past week for evening worship.

SENECA, S. C., 706 Adams Street
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

During my work with the congregation thus far, many encouraging signs have been seen. Both contribution and attendance are at an all-time high, on the average and interest in the work program seems good. Beside the services on Sunday, Bible classes are being taught at Clemson College, and in two private homes during the week. A singing class meets on the first Sunday night of each month, followed by a fellowship gathering in some of the member's homes. This singing class has been highly successful thus far, having an attendance on some occasions that is as high or higher than that of the Sunday morning worship. The church here has a radio program on the local station each Sunday morning from 9:30 - 10:00. The "Herald of Truth" TV broadcast and the "Hymns from Harding" radio program are also seen and heard in this area. Right now our biggest problem is a widely scattered membership A satisfactory program of work is hard to arrange for the members since they are not able to come together during the week very often. Our immediate goal is to influence more people in Seneca itself, to become Christians. This we believe will expedite our work a great deal. Prospects seem good, and with the Lord's help, we will some day have a strong, zealous congregation in this city of nearly 8,000. On March 16, we had one restoration.

SYLVA, N. C., Dill @ Josephine St.
Bob Rigdon, Evangelist.

Four years ago there were four members meeting in this county (Jackson). Today there are 41 members of the Lord's church. They are paying for their own building and preacher's home. Last year 18 were baptized. Two one-half hour radio programs are conducted each week; a newspaper article "Bible Questions and Bible Answers" is run each week; Bible classes are taught in homes at Caney Fork, Franklin, Bryson City and Cleveland, Georgia. In May, 1957, Bob Rigdon and family moved here to work full time with the church. They are supported by the Polytechnic congregation in Ft. Worth Texas. Sylva is located fifteen miles from Cherokee where 35-40 Christians from elsewhere are putting forth special effort this summer to take the Gospel to the Indians. Spearheading this effort is Bro. Hunnicutt of Sheffield, Ala. When in the Great Smoky Mountains come to see us.

GASTONIA, N. C., 510 S. Broad St.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist.

The work here is going along fine. We had our third baptism of the year on March 1, 1959.

SOME VITAL STATISTICS TO BE OF NOTE TO ALL CHRISTIANS.
by BILL G. SMITH

From the best information available it seems that there are approximately 1,800,000 members of the church who are holding to the simple New Testament worship and organization. These people are meeting in some 16,000 congregations. Yet, there are only about 7,500 men who are giving full or part-time in publicly preaching the word, and only some 4,000 of those are giving time during daily working hours. The others are working regularly at some job and preaching some on Sundays.

Churches of Christ now have 160 missionary families on foreign soil. Of the over 100 sponsoring congregations we know of, just about 50 percent of them are in Texas, followed by California and Oklahoma with Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Alabama, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Ga., N. Mexico and District of Columbia next in line.

We have a total of 134 nations in the world - 71 of these now have at least one congregation of the Lord's church. That means we have 63 to go.

How many souls are you going to win to Christ this year??
How much mission work are you planing on doing this year??
"The harvest is great. . . but the reapers are few."

DON'T QUIT

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
When you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit
Rest, if you must, but don't Quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about,
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up, though the pace seems slow -
You might succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than,
It seems to a faint and faltering man,
Often the struggle he's given up,
When he might have captured the victor's cup.
And he learned too late, when the night slipped down,
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out -
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt -
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar.
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit -
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't Quit.

-----Author Unknown-----

GOSPEL MEETINGS

DUNCAN, S. C. "Preach the Word", "Sin", "The Importance of the Lord's Supper", "Repentance" and many others will be the subjects used by Bro. Virgil Richie, Rockmart, Georgia, when he holds a meeting at Duncan, S. C. on April 1-12.

WOODRUFF, S. C. The meeting here will be held from April 12-19. Bro. Roy Burgess of Woodbury, Tenn. will be the speaker.

GREENVILLE, S. C. (Judson church, 2 Marble Street) Bro. G. F. Gibbs, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, will be the speaker each evening at 7:30 P. M., April 5-12 in a series of gospel meetings.

KANNAPOLIS, N. C. A singing school conducted by Bro. Sam Durrance will be held each evening at 7:15 during the meeting here on April 20-25 with Bro. Sam Norman, Evangelist.

TRYON, N. C. April 6-14. Services beginning each evening at 7:30 P. M. with Bro. Charles Lemons, Chattanooga, Tennessee speaker.

GASTONIA, N. C. April 12-19 at 7:30 P. M. Speaker: Yarbrough Leigh, Tallahassee, Florida.

AIKEN, S. C. Beginning April 13. Speaker: James S. Woodroof, W. Columbia, S. C.

WAYNESVILLE, N. C. March 30 - April 8 at 7:30 P. M. Bro. Roy Burgess, Woodbury, Tenn. will be the speaker.

BOONE, N. C. Bro. Grey Flippen will hold the meeting here from April 16-26.

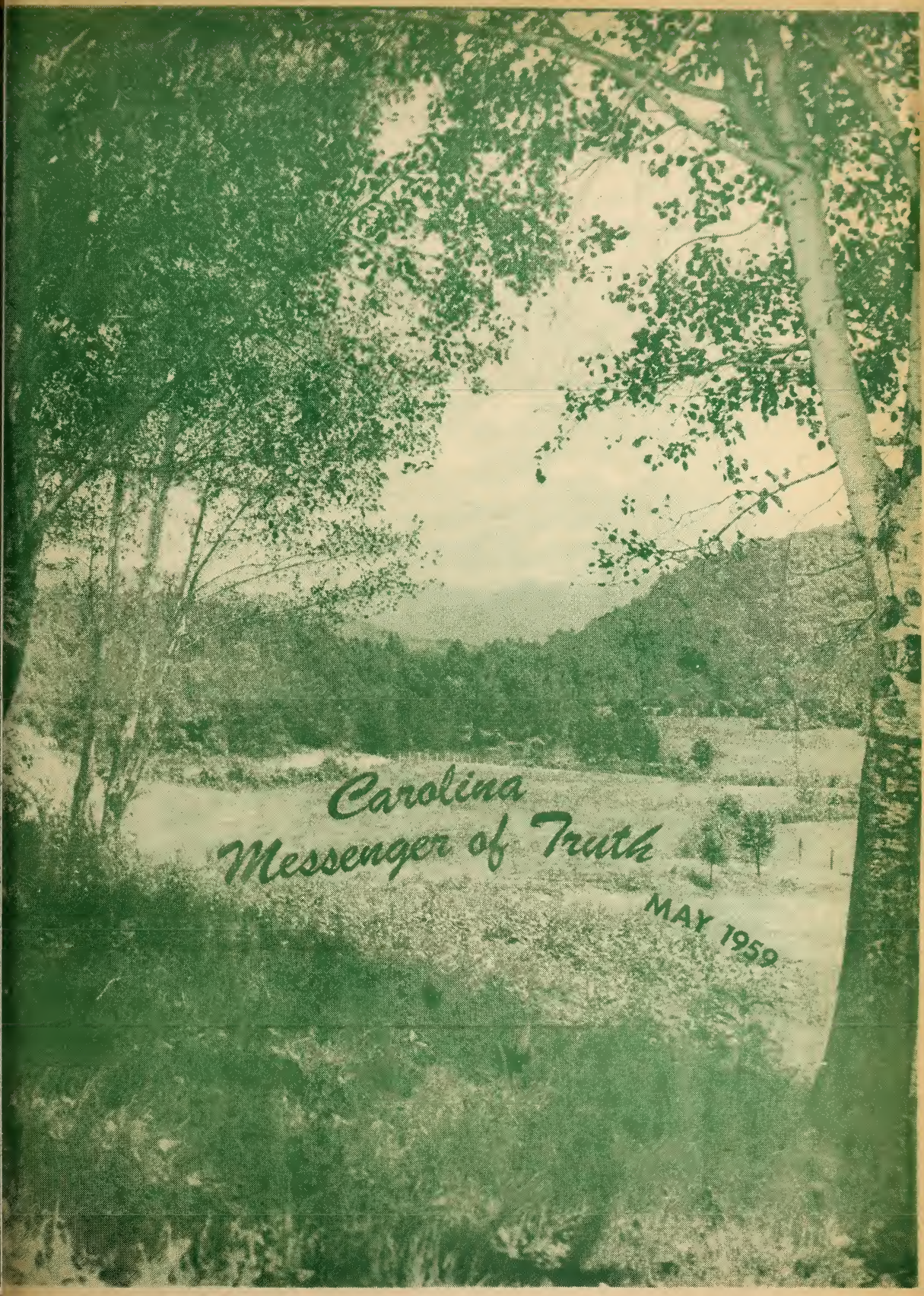
MOORE, S. C. Each evening at 7:45 P. M. Bro. Bob Plunkett, Spartanburg, S. C. will speak in a series of gospel meetings, April 12-19.

FLORENCE, S. C. May 10-17 are the dates for a gospel meeting with Bro. Joe Riggs, Rockingham, N. C. as speaker.

GREENSBORO, N. C. (Wendover) Spring meeting will begin April 12-19 with Bro. Edward Anderson, Livingston, Tennessee as speaker.

SINGINGS

GREENVILLE, S. C. (Judson) April 12 - 3:00 P. M.
TRYON, N. C. April 12 - 3:00 P. M.


Carolina
Messenger of Truth
MAY 1959

Some Progress Noted

By **Burl Curtis**

If a publication's progress is to be determined by the number of its readers, then we can say that we made some definite progress in April. About 1,000 families received the "Messenger" either by subscription or by gift. In order to acquaint many with the paper, we gave many copies away, but, of course, the free distribution will stop when the purpose has been accomplished. A nobler cause for free distribution would be to give them to persons not members of the church and to those who have not seen it as yet.

Many of us do not do things because we are not asked. I am asking you to do the following for the "Carolina Messenger of Truth": (1) Send in your own subscription. If it isn't worth the price to you, is it for anyone else? You certainly have appreciated the "free copies" you have been receiving. Send in your subscription now, then you won't have to say, "They stopped sending it to me". (2) Subscribe for some one else. Some are already doing this. You may know of a person who is not a member of the church (we give you our promise that the paper will be kept so that you can freely give it to such) or someone who has turned back into the world. (3) Get five or more to subscribe at one time and take advantage of the club rate. A good woman of a congregation could do this. (4) Encourage the church to purchase a bundle each month to give to visitors and friends.

In addition to the teaching articles and news, we plan to offer another service beginning with the June issue. I call it "stressing the need". What is the need for mission work or preaching the gospel in your area? If the "Messenger" is successful in helping to keep the need before us and members in other states, then, by this alone, it would have a reason to continue to exist.

Now about news. Other portions of the paper may challenge us to work, but the news challenges us to rejoice. Let others rejoice with you in your progress. Remember to think of the month from the 15th to the 15th. News items should be mailed to Bro. Edward Davis not later than the 20th. Last month some important items could not be included because they were just too late.

Let me encourage you to write letters to the editor. Your favorable comments are encouraging, your criticisms are helpful and stimulating, and your good will is indispensable.

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LIFT UP YOUR EYES AND LOOK UNTO THE FIELDS FOR THEY ARE WHITE UNTO THE HARVEST. . . . . .

Don't be content with being AVERAGE. That just means you are as near the bottom as the top. -Selected-

1959 BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT

The 1959 Blue Ridge Encampment will be held June 22-26 at the Blue Ridge Assembly 10 miles east of Asheville. There will be three programs - one for adults, one for young people and one for children. South and North Carolina preachers on the teaching staff are Dabney Phillips, J. D. Parker, Paul Sikes and T. A. Issacs. Plan to attend this encampment with your family. More information regarding details will be available in the next issue of this publication.

"Non-church members are never attracted to the church by those who do not attend the service. A man who does not patronize his own profession need not expect others to do so."

A WORTHY CAUSE

CAN YOU HELP?

The church in Aberdeen, N. C. was started about four years ago and at one time had 15 members. They had an opportunity to buy a building from the Baptists which was being offered for $18000.00. The Church of God people wanted to buy, but there was some opposition in the community. The Baptists then offered the building to the brethren for $10000.00. The brethren being few in number, did not think they would be able to raise the money. Later the Baptists, having a hardship because of the closing of a mill in that section offered the building to the brethren for $5000.00. They started writing letters asking for help. I personally made a trip to Alabama and raised $1000.00 for them. I do not know how much was raised, but I am sure they do not owe more than $3000.00 now. It is a good building, well-located and with good seating. However, all these brethren have moved away except two recent converts. The payments on the building are $300.00 per year. Brother Cooper and his wife, who are the only ones left, have $100.00 toward payment. The payment will be due April 1st. I hope something can be done to raise the necessary amount. Several preachers in this area are planning to have a two weeks meeting, with house-to-house visitation this spring. I will let you know more about this later. In th meantime, any one who would like to help in this matter may contact Bro. Fleet Cooper, % McCain Hospital, McCain N. C. There is a good opportunity here if we can get the church started among the people of this community.

Frank R. Milton

A last minute report from Bro. Milton says that the building has been secured. Pray for this work.

THE MESSIANIC PROPHESY FROM THE MINOR PROPHETS

PART III

BY **T. A. Isaacs**

(Please review articles No. 1 and 2)

The third article in this series of articles on the Messianic prophesy from the minor prophets deals with the Messiah and His Kingdom. In introducing this third article, the Messiah and His kingdom, let us look first at the one who was to come before Him and prepare the way for Him, John the Baptizer. In Malachi 3: 1, the prophet says "Behold, I send my messenger (John the Baptizer), and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, will suddenly come to his temple, and the messenger (Jesus Christ) of the covenant, whom ye desire, behold, he cometh, saith Jehovah of hosts." Again Malachi refers to John the Baptizer in Malachi 4:5 where he says: And he shall go before his face in the Spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to walk in the wisdom of the just; to make ready for the Lord a people prepared for him". Hence, we can see that John was to be the forerunner of Christ the Savious. But now let us look at the Messiah himself and His Kingdom as found in the minor prophets. First, let us get a description of the Messiah from Zechariah 9:9. The prophet says: "Rejoice greatly, O, daughter of Zion: shout, O, daughter of Jerusalem; behold, the king cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon a colt the foal of an ass". As one may know this is a description of Jesus when he triumphantly enters Jerusalem for the last time. The significance of the passage, though, is the way in which He is described, He is just, having salvation and lowly. What a vivid and picturesque description this is of the one who died a ransom for many.

From where was this Messiah to come? One may turn to the book of Micah for the answer. In Micah 5 verse 2, the writer says: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto me that is to be ruler of Israel: whose going forth are from of old, from everlasting". The phrase "Bethlehem Ephrathah" is the same Bethlehem as can be seen from Genesis 35: 19, which says: "And Rachel died, and was buried in the way of Ephrathah (the same is Bethlehem)". In Luke 2:4 we find that Bethlehem was the place where Mary was, due to the taxation, when Jesus was born.

The Messiah in prophetic language was spoken of under several different figures. We shall notice two or three at this time. In Zechariah 3:8 the prophet uses one of these figures when he says: "I will bring forth my servant the Branch". Then again in Zechariah 6:12, "And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh Jehovah of hosts, saying, Behold, the man whose name is the Branch". One may get a clear meaning of this term if he will turn to Isaiah 11:1 where Isaiah speaking of the coming of the Messiah says: "And there shall come forth a shoot (a branch) out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch out of his root shall bear fruit."
The second figure that is used in the prophets is found in Micah 2: 13, "The Breaker is gone up before them: they have broken forth and passed on to the gate, and are gone out thereat; and their King is passed on before them, and Jehovah at the head of them." Here we see Christ referred to as the breaker and king. The meaning of the word breaker is "one who leads"; therefore we find the immediate fulfillment of this breaker in Zurrubbabel and its ultimate fulfillment or consumation in Jesus Christ, who is the "breaker", the "leader" and the "King" who has gone on before his people to lead and direct them. Zechariah shows to us also that he was to be a king and also a priest. In 6: 13 he says: "And he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne (king) and he shall be a priest

upon his throne:" The writer of the Hebrew letter reveals to us that these things took place in Christ Jesus for he says in Hebrews 8: 1, "Now in the things which we are saying the chief point is this: we have such a high priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the majesty in heaven." This writer also tells us that Christ has been made a priest after the order of Melchizedek. Not only is Christ "priest" and "king", but he is also on an equality with God. In Zechariah 13: 7, the prophet says: "Awake, O, sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow." The meaning of this word "fellow" shows that Christ was on an equality with God. The meaning is "an equal" as in power, rank, character. Paul in writing to the Phillippians shows the equality that existed between God and Christ when he said, "Who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped." Hence, one may see that this branch, breaker, king and priest was on an equality with God.

From Nahum one may see the character of both Christ and his kingdom. Although only one verse deals with the Messiah, I believe it important since it shows this relationship. In 1: 15, Nahum states: "Behold, upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace." This I believe without a doubt has reference to the Messiah, and rightly so, because the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 52: 7 definitely uses this expression to refer to that one who would come to "bring good tidings". True it is that the Saviour of mankind did bring to us the good tidings in the Gospel of peace which is able to save one's soul. (Rom. 1: 16) Nahum says that "upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings." The phrase "upon the mountains" undoubtly refers to the fact that from this position the messenger of good tidings could be heard far and wide throughout the land. Not only was the Messiah to be a bringer of good tidings but he was also to be one that publisheth peace. How beautiful is the expression Isaiah uses in Isaiah 9: 6, "The Prince of peace." Truly He was the "Prince of peace." He came to bring peace both to the Jew and the Greek, to break up the division and strife that had existed between them. Paul said, "For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us" (Eph. 2: 15. It was this "Prince of peace" who said, "These things have I spoken unto you that in me ye may have peace. In the world ye have tribulation: be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." He did overcome and he brought to us that blessed and marvelous peace that dwells in Him. It is with thanksgiving and praise that we are able, through the gospel (the good tidings) to know this "Prince of peace" and to say with the apostle Paul in Rom. 10: 15, "How beautiful are the feet of them that bring glad tidings of good things."

In Haggai, Zerrubbabel is represented as a type of Christ as the temple is being rebuilt under him. Let us look at this relationship and the rebuilding of the temple, both under the type and the antitype, Jesus Christ. In Haggai 2: 9 the prophet speaks of the "latter glory of this house, referring to the temple. The temple of God was rebuilt under Zerrubbabel, just as the temple of God, the spiritual temple, was built under and through Jesus Christ. The glory of the temple under Jesus Christ was to be greater than that of the old material temple rebuilt under Zerrubbabel. Verses 20-23 of chapter two of Haggai shows the type of Christ in Zerrubbabel. Zerrubbabel represented the House of David just as Christ did. Zerrubbabel was in the ancestry of Christ and of David as can be seen from Matthew 1: 12. Zerrubbabel was a signet signifying the rebuilding of the temple of God under him just as Jesus Christ was to be a signet signifying the building of the temple of God under him. As has already been stated the physical temple was rebuilt under Zerrubbabel and the temple of God, the spiritual temple was built under Christ. One may see the picture of

Christ building the temple more clearly if one turns to Zechariah 6: 9-13 and views this passage that not only refers to Christ as building the temple of Jehovah, but as on His throne: "And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Take of them of the captivity, even of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah; then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua, the son of Josedech, the high priest, and speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is the BRANCH: and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord: Even he shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel for peace shall be between them both."

Are you a member of this temple of the Lord, the church, that Jesus Christ, the Branch, built? If not, please turn with me to Acts the second Chapter and let us see what one must do in order to become a member. Recorded in this chapter is the beginning of the "temple of the Lord", the church, so it is appropriate that one go there to see what one must do in order to become a member. Peter, as the Holy Spirit directed him, preached a soul-stiring sermon to these "devout Jews gathered from every nation under heaven." He reached the climax of this sermon in the 36th verse where he said: "Therefore, let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye crucified, both Lord and Christ." Now listen very carefully to the next few verses of this same chapter: "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto the, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Then in verses 41 and 47 we are told: "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls . . . And the Lord added to the church (the spiritual temple of God) daily such as should be saved." Dear friend, this is what one had to do in order to become a member of the church on the day that it was first begun and it is what one must do today in order to be added to the church (the temple of the Lord) by the Lord himself. If you have not done this, it is my fervent prayer that you will do so immediately.

TALK ABOUT CLOSE COMMUNION

BY - Noyles E. Sewell

Monday night, March 23, I called at the home of a young man who had in the past been enrolled in our Bible school. He and his family were dressed to leave the house and it was explained that they were going to the "Kingdom Hall" for a memorial observance. Having no pressing appointments for the remainder of the evening I accepted their invitation to accompany them. We entered the attractive ground-floor building about 15 minutes early and took seats about midway in an auditorium that would seat over 200. As the auditorium filled rapidly with people my friends explained the meaning of a large bulletin board on one wall. It contained information for each month's activities. During February it revealed that 140 "witnesses" had contributed a total of 1249 hours to the distributing of "Watchtower" material from house to house. This was an average of 8.9 hours per person. I could not help but be amazed at the contrast between the zeal of these people to spread the rotten heresy of the Watchtower Society and the lethargy of some of my brethren toward spreading the truth of God. My thoughts along this line were interrupted as attention shifted to the man who had taken the pulpit. He had been previously introduced to me as "Mr. Peebles", the congregational servant. After a song and prayer we were subjected

some forty minutes of manuscript read-
g, which I later learned was an article from
recent issue of Watchtower. The audience
as told that the occasion of the evening was
e observance of the "Lord's evening meal",
commemoration, not of the suffering and
ath of Christ, but of his observance of the
st Passover in the upper room. It was al-
) said that the observance should be con-
nued each year on the fourteenth of the Jew-
h month Nisan, which they supposed to fall
1 March 23-24, sundown to sundown. The
)eaker further revealed that only the rem-
ınt of 144,000 mentioned in Revelation 7
ere entitled to take part in the observance,
which only 15,000 remain yet alive. Af-
r the reading of the Watchtower article,
ree men came forward and passed a sil-
:r plate of unleavened bread to all present.
ıis was followed by a goblet of fermented
ine which was also offered to all assembled.
Being able to observe about half the con-
gregation, it struck me as curious that none
vere availing themselves of the opportun-
ty to observe the "Lord's evening meal"
)y partaking of these emblems. Immed-
ately after the conclusion of the service,
sought out one of the men who had passed
he bread and wine and inquired as to the
ıumber who had observed the memorial.
was advised that for the past two years
here had been no one in the congregation
:ntitled to partake and that there were none
)resent at that time.

magine that! Some 200 members of this
group had gathered together to observe a
nemorial, a long speech had been delivered
o explain it's meaning, the emblems are
)assed and lo! . . . . no one is worthy to
)artake.

thought of the Baptists who restrict the
Lord's Supper to "Those of like faith and
)rder with us." I thought of the Catholics
vho withhold the wine from the people and
ıllow it only to the priest. But in the slaves
)f the "Watchtower" the ridiculous reaches
ı new height. Their communion is so "close"
hat they themselves are not worthy to par-
ake.

A GREAT BLESSING

BY William N. Jackson

I romped through fields of fellowship like a barefoot boy in clover. Yes, I have just returned from my first Carolina Lectureship. The Lord willing, I shall not miss one as long as I'm in one of these two states.

I can't recall when I've enjoyed any five-day period so much. The messages and the speakers were outstanding! Those of us who attended feel that we gained much more from these than from the lectures held on college campuses. After all, we have a tie with every man in the Carolinas that we just can't have with those from other sections of the country.

As ministers of Christ, we are obligated to take advantage of every opportunity for growth and development in the service of God. Any work that contributes to such growth and development cannot be called unimportant. The Carolina Lectures were just such a work. No attentive preacher could leave Charlotte unwilling to admit that he would be a better man and preacher for having been there.

Preachers, shortly the congregations in Winston-Salem will announce the dates of the 1960 Lectures. You'll have almost a year's notice. You owe it to yourself, to the congregation where you labor, and to those of like precious faith in these two states to attend. Surely you can arrange your work so that these 5 days will be free. If free time can be arranged so that some can go on vacation, then free time can be found for this profitable endeavor.

Take it from one who has profited much, and who expects to do greater things for the Lord as a result of the week spent in Charlotte, the Lectures are more than worth the effort required to arrange your work to be there.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE CAROLINA LECTURES IN THE SPRING OF 1960!!!

GIVING THE PATTERN TO THE SON

BY--BRUCE CURD

David, the patriarch king, has completed a most successful reign of forty years over the united kingdom of Israel. The kingdom is prosperous and at the zenith of its long long history. All of the vast territorial expanses of the land promised to Abraham have been recovered under the brilliant leadership of David. Gen. 15:18; 2 Sam. 8:3. His sin with Bathsheba and the consequent slaying of her husband, Uriah, is the outstanding blot which mars the long and colorful life of this, the greatest of Israel's kings. Because of his being a man of violence David is forbidden to build an house for God's name. David, in recalling this prohibition, said, "But God said unto me, Thou shalt not build an house for my name, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood." I Chron. 28:3.

Knowing that the purposes of God altereth not, David unselfishly summons Solomon his son before him and informs him that he, Solomon, would build God's house. God had said, ". . . Solomon, thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father." I. Chron. 28:6. Now David, with eyes dimmed and strength abating, aware that he must soon go the way of all flesh, hands the reins of leadership to his son. So David "died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honour; and Solomon, his son, reigned in his stead." I. Chron. 29:28.

The writer of Chron. tells us further, "then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlor thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat, and the pattern of all that he had by the spirit of the courts of the house of the Lord, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things." I. Chron. 28: 11-12.

"Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern." From this marvelous statement several challenging thoughts come to mind.

These few words are fraught with lessons of intrinsic value for our day. Although this statement was made with reference to the building of Solomon's temple, we believe that we can make application of it to modern generation and our grave responsibilities to our children and the church.

EACH GENERATION HAS ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITIES!

Each preceding generation has tremendous responsibilities toward the subsequent generation. As the church in this generation goes so, in a great measure, will it go in the next generation. There is no greater obligation before us at the present time than to lay the groundwork for a strong and aggressive church. Its message, its mission, its worship, its organization, its name, its spirit, its zeal, must be unmarked by the substitutions, alterations and fabrications of modernistic thinking. The pristine glory and grandeur of the New Testament church must be held aloft by all who love the Lord and His word.

The truth must be held in high regard. There must be no compromise - no flexibility. Ours is a relentless foe - no quarter will be asked - none given. Ours is a battle to the death, an uphill struggle. against overwhelming odds. In order to win, there can be no retreating, no looking back. There will be no treaties. We will never surrender! This war we wage is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces, evil minds and idealogies, superstitutions, pride, indifference - enemies of the inner man. The forces of evil are formidable

but they are not invulnerable. They will be overcome. With the Lord of hosts as our Captain; with the blood-stained banner of the Prince of peace to rally us forward we shall surge on to triumphant victory. Having ourselves fully equipped with the Christian's armor and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God in our hands, we cannot fail. Eph. 5:17; Heb. 4:12. Against the cross-fire of this indestructible word no enemy can long stand. Its power is too withering; its potency too devastating to endure. The demoniac forces of Satan can throw no new or surprise weapon against us. They may come camouflaged or disguised, remodeled or made-over, but they are the same. There is nothing that the Devil can array against us but what has been met and defeated in the crucibles of battle many times before. The eternal word of God in the hands of a skillful friend will send the enemies of righteousness floundering in the dust of defeat, no matter what methods of trickery may be used. The Bible is perfect, inerrant and completely sufficient for him who fights in the army of the Lord. I Tim. 3: 16-17. The church of Jesus Christ must believe this without reservation and indoctrinate the rising generation with its truthfulness.

IF ONE GENERATION FAILS -- ALL IS LOST!

Christians should seriously concern themselves with the fact that the church of our Lord can apostatize in one generation. Congregations must remodel, revamp and recharge their teaching programs. Instead of the shallow-stay-too-near-to shore methods of teaching we must drill, ground and root our children in the fathomless treasures of the word of God. The future purity and stability of the church depends upon it. The eternal souls of our children, grandchildren and the souls of millions yet unborn are dependent upon it.

Where are the churches of apostolic history today - of Judea, of Antioch, of Asia Minor, of Rome? Why can't these once successful and influential churches be located today? They were swallowed up in the great apostasy. Somewhere they failed to build securely. Somewhere one generation was unfaithful to its responsibilities. The same can happen today. Departures from a "thus saith the Lord" in matters of religion will result in apostasy today. Seeds of apostasy are now being sown by hobbyistic and fault-finding factions in the church today. These pernicious influences, if allowed to run their course, will make havoc of the unity of the church. Brotherly love and a real revival of the spirit of Christ must be instilled in the people of God in order to prevent such a catastrophe. God forbid that division should come! Let congregations and individuals alike "take heed lest they fall." I Cor. 10"12.

We do not mean to intimate that the indifference of a single generation may annihilate the church entirely; for as long as we have the seed of the kingdom, which is the word of God (Luke 8: 11) the church may be reproduced. We do mean, however, that the beachheads that have been established the inroads that have been made against sin, and the triumphs of the Lord's church that we are witnessing will come to naught should a single generation fail to carry out its obligations.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE RISING GENERATION. !!

In a few short years the mantle of leadership will be placed upon the shoulders of our children. The frolicsome boisterous boys of today will be the preachers, teachers, elders and deacons of tomorrow. The giggling girls will be the mothers and the teachers of our children. Will they be ready for the task or will the task be too great? The answer to this question depends largely upon you and me, the fathers and mothers, the teachers and leaders of today. We must teach our children. We create in them a keen desire for an abiding knowledge of the truth of God. We must show them the power of an influential life.

Solomon gave far reaching and age-lasting instructions to all parents when he said, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6. Some have questioned the truthfulness of this statement and have regarded it as not applicable to our times. It is, however, a part of the word of God. ! We must learn the meaning of "train". Many have been told, others have been taught, but few have been trained. Education is more than a telling process or even a teaching process. It is a training. We tell a child to help it to know. Teaching him we help him to know and grow. Training him is a three fold process; namely it is helping him to know, to grow and leading him to do. Until a child knows what to do, and does it, until it is a part of him he is not trained.

Moses taught, "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand. And they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on the gates." Deut. 6:6-9.

In our American society it is a crime to fail to see that our children are given a proper education and extended the proper parental affection until they are old enough to provide for themselves. This is as it should be. But what more atrocious crime, that is seldom considered a crime, could not be committed against our children than to fail to instruct them in the Word of God. A failure to teach our children may bring remorse to the parents as well as to the children. Prov. 29:15. The untaught child may rise up to curse his parents in years to come for their paving his way for a life of prodigality. Prov. 30: 11-14. Let us learn and never forget that to teach children and convert them to Christ is to save a soul from a possible criminal's death, and most assuredly from eternal death - separation from God. James 5: 19-20; 2 Thess. 1:7-9. Parents who follow the teaching of God in instructing their children will have no regret or remorse in their declining years. Those children will rise up and call them blessed. What more could a loving parent want for in this life?

Much depends upon us. Our children are looking to us for instructions. Shall we devolve our responsibility? Our failure to pray with our children and teach them will impair their abilities to assume the obligations that lie ahead. Let us not fail them. Let us see that they grow up with a geniune faith in the God of the Bible and His Word; with a sincere love for the church; and with the blessings that follow close communion with God.

GOD'S REMEDY!

Each generation must hand the pattern to the son. The pattern of true spiritual worship; the pattern of good works; the pattern of the New Testament church; the conditions of salvation; the pattern of good works the pattern of a godly life. These things must be explicitly and impressively presented to our children. The younger generation must be indoctrinated with the pattern of sound doctrine and respect for the authority of God's word.

God's remedy for correcting the world's problems is to teach diligently the law of the Lord. Deut. 6: 4-9. Call attention to the evil conditions in the world and ask for help from God, Psa. 78:1-8; train our children in the way they should go, Prov. 22:6; nurture our children in the admonition of the Lord, Eph. 6:4; and continue to train them through successive generations to have faith in God. 2 Tim. 1: 3-5; 3:15.

These truths should be stamped with indelible imprint upon the minds and hearts of our children then the combined efforts of

false doctrines and modernistic teachers will not move or shake their faith. This is the hope of the world.

The mantle is shifting. Soon the church of today must give way to the church of tomorrow. Will the rising generation be ready? Grave responsibilities rest upon us to see that our children are prepared. What shall we do? The future holds the answer. Let us hold fast the pattern of sound doctrine that we may in turn hand the same to our children. 2 Tim. 2:2.

HERALD OF TRUTH WILL CONTINUE

On April 12, WLOS TV concluded a 13 week showing (Sundays at 9:oo A. M.) of the Herals of Truth, a religious program of actual services of Churches of Christ throughout the country. With but very few exceptions, the program has been well received and accepted. It is good to see brethren interested in preaching the gospel to the lost to the extent of giving of their time and money to get the job done.

You will be interested to know that another 13 week contract has been signed with the television station to begin Sunday, April 19 and continue through July 12. The station management has been very well pleased with the programs.

Many of you, members of the church and congregations, have already let us know that you desire to have a part in these programs. Let us know the date we can expect your contribution toward the work, that we might work up our payment schedule.

If you have not expressed a desire to help preach the gospel on WLOS TV you may send your checks to us at anytime. Less than $500 of the $780 needed has been promised.

Set your dial on Channel 13 each Sunday at 9:00 A. M. and on Channel 62 (WISE TV) each Sunday at 6:30 P. M.

Vance Street Church of Christ
54 Vance Street, Asheville, N. C.

NOTICE!! NOTICE!! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!

PLEASE SEND ALL NEWS REPORTS TO: B. EDWARD DAVIS, 706 ADAMS STREET SENECA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

WCOS, Columbia, S. C. -------7:30 P. M.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C, -----2:30 P. M.
WBTW, Chl. 8----------1:00 P. M.
WUSN, Chl. 6, Charleston--- 12:30P. M.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C. - 2:30 P. M.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington, N. C. -Noon
WJMX----------2:30 P. M.
WKIX ----------2:30 P. M.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.------- 5:30 P. M.
WLOS, CHl. 13, Asheville---- 9:00 A. M.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C. ----- 2:30 P. M.

Regular:
WDNC, Durham, N. C.-------9:15 A. M.
WGTN, 1400 ---------- 9:00 A. M.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380 -9:15 A. M.
WHIP; Mooresville, N. C.---- 4:30 P. M.
WACA, 1590----------8:40 A. M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.----- 8:45 A. M.
WBCU, 1460 ----------9:00 A. M.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.--8:45 A. M.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.----9:30 A. M.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

WCGD, Chester, S. C. -------11:45 A. M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg, S. C. ----11:45 A. M.

FRIDAY

WSPA-TV, Chl 7, Spartanburg 7:4' A. M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590----------5:00 P. M.
WMNC ---------- 9:30 A. M.
WBCU ---------- 8:45 P. M.

PUTTING THE CHURCH FIRST

by
DABNEY PHILLIPS

In a sermon to the disciples Jesus insisted that the Kingdom was to have first place in their lives. That principle ran through the Old Testament and will be true and binding until the Lord comes again. But observation indicates the failure of many Christians to follow the instructions of the Savior. In the lines that are to follow the writer shall mention a few of these failures as pertain to Matt. 6: 33.

Christians believe that the Church is the greatest of all institutions because it is divine and is the saving realm of the soul. Numerous members of the Church have relegated the Kingdom to a place of secondary importance. This is bound to be true when more time is spent to further the interest of a lodge or a club, than is spent in working for the Church. Brethren are known to give more time and money in behalf of the Red Cross and Community Chest than for the Church. How can this be done in the light of Eph. 3: 21? In the passage listed, Paul stated that God was to be given glory through Christ in the Church. It is dangerous to encourage organizations that border on doing the work of the Church. The author is aware that there are clubs that do commendable work, but here is the point, when a Church member puts his very all in the club the church is left behind. Obviously in some congregations the members are clubbed to death.

The problem of Church attendance has always been a serious one, especially to services besides the Sunday morning worship. It has always been a mystery to thoughtful Christians why more do not attend the evening services. It is a good thing that Acts 20: 7 is in the Bible because otherwise most members would never be seen at the house of the Lord. Can you picture a boy in love saying, "must I see you twice a week?" It is just as absurd for the Christian insisting upon the passage for prayer meeting. Members of the Church are subject to their elders, and at their request we ought to be present to encourage the work. Paul wrote Titus to be "ready to every good work." Frequenting God's house on Sunday night is a good work, then why would not the verse quoted be applicable? In some communities the high school has the commencement sermon at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning. Christian graduates compromise by missing their regular worship and come Sunday night for the supper to meet the requirement. Do you believe the Catholics would approve such procedure? No, by pressure upon the school authorities, they would have the conflict settled. Truly, there is a crying need to put the Church first in our lives. The above principle ought to be applied to school plays and games. If a choice has to be made then attending the service of the Church is to be the choice.

It is an old experience for members to prepare meals for company in place of worshiping. This is a case of putting the physical above the spiritual. Seemingly the teaching found In Acts 20: 7 and Heb. 10: 25 mean nothing to these lukewarm persons. The desire to go fishing or visiting is given preference over going to the house of the Lord. Vacations are taken with no thought as to the place of worship. Once a little girl before leaving for a vacation said her prayers as follows: "Good-by God, I am going to California." Brethren these things ought not so to be.

As the Body of Christ we possess the truth, but the truth can be given great emphasis by Godly living in the Church. This article is a plea for distinctive living in the Church that the world may know of the kingdom among men. Constantly ask yourself the question, "What can I do to make the Church grow?" A plea for fervent service is made with the hope that the church will once again cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

"MANIFOLD TEMPTATIONS"

article no. 2

by James S. Woodroof

Never smile at a crocodile.
Never tip your hat and stop to stay
a while.
Don't be taken in by his silly grin;
He's imagining how well you'd fit
within his skin.

This is where we left the Devil last month. We must not be ignorant of his devices, and the description of the crocodile in the song fits the Devil pretty well. Last month we learned that the temptations that face teenagers are indeed manifold - many. But we also learned that the teenager is not the only one who is faced with temptation - everyone is! We also learned that you don't outgrow temptation with "years and much graying"; but more correctly you overcome it with "tears and much praying." We saw that temptations have a purpose in our lives. But you say - "What purpose could be important enough for me to have to "fall into" and "overcome" so many temptations in order for me to gain that purpose?" That's a good question alright. But here is the answer - God doesn't want you to be just a cow grazing in a field. God wants you to grow up into fine, mature, Christian young men and women. God has a wonderful future planned for you; but temptations play a part in your getting there. So - here goes- Let's look this "monster" in the face again and learn something more about it.

There seems to be two kinds of temptation: One sent by God; the other by Satan. Now I don't know whether James had this in mind when he made two references to temptation or not (Jas. 1: 2-4; Jas. 1: 12-15) But let me show you what I'm talking about.

God does, in a sense, "tempt" man. He does not tempt man "with evil"; James clearly says that he doesn't. But God does "try" man or "prove" man's faith. James mentions this "proving of our faith" in Jas. 1: 3. Are there any examples of such a proving on the part of God? Would you get your Bible and read some verses? Just these few: Ps. 11:5; Prov. 17: 3; Jer. 20: 12; I Thess. 2: 4. Now here is a specific example of God trying a man: Gen. 22: 1, "And it came to pass . . . that God did prove (try) Abraham." Heb. 11: 17 also mentions it - "By faith, Abraham, being tried, offered up Issac . . ." Now here is a statement I want you to consider: It seems that God has in every age given man some commandment to obey (that man cannot see any sense in) that is a "proving of his faith. For example - (1) The command by God to the Israelites to kill a lamb and put the blood on the door post and lentils of their houses. How foolish! What connection does that . . . ? Not any, except that God said do it. It was a proving of their faith. (2) The case of Abraham offering Issac is the same - a trying of Abraham's faith. (3) So today - any command that God has given us even though we may not be able to see any sense in it. serves its purpose as a "proving of our faith." Baptism might be a good example. Or for that matter, God's "precautions" that seem foolish to teenagers. But God knows best, and at the same time he is proving your faithfulness to Him.

But there is another kind of temptation that you must especially be on guard against: that of the temptation of evil. God is not the author of these temptations. "God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man." God has no need of sinful men; so why should He tempt anyone to sin?

James tells us that "each of us is drawn away by his own lust and enticed. . ." The word "lust" has a bad ring to it doesn't it? And it should. But I want to show you something that will help you understand better and therefore appreciate morefully the drives and desires that go with being human.

First, realize that "lust" in and of itself is not bad - but good. The ability to lust is God given. Lust is merely emotion; affection or

desire. Emotions are a prize possession. They are as necessary to the happiness of man as breath is to existence. And pray that you'll never descend to the place where you are like the Gentiles of whom Paul wrote who were 'past feeling'. The whole problem of sin lies not in emotions; affections or desires, etc., but in MISGUIDED emotions, affections or desires. When our affections, etc. are placed on things of the world, God refers to such as "lust", and it does have a bad ring about it, because such misplacing of our emotions is evil. Eve was drawn away by her own lust - Gen. 3: 1-7; as also was Achan - Joshua 7: 21; as also was David - II Sam. 11: 2-5. And when ever you let your affections be placed on worldly things and are enticed - and when these "lusts" conceive, you will sin. But God has provided a good, wholesome and lawful outlet for every emotion and desire that you experience in your body. These are God given! Thank God for them; and then use them in the way that God would have you use them for your greatest happiness. No wise person would think of trying to operate an expensive machine without first reading the instructions from the maker. So you young people before you try to "operate" your life, your soul, your body - be sure to "read the instructions from the Maker." He, more than anyone else, knows how you function and how you can operate your life successfully.

Here is a blessed promise. Not only does God not tempt us with evil, but he will not even allow Satan to tempt us beyond what we are able to bear, but will always open a door of escape through which we may flee, and that door will be marked with a bright EXIT (if you'll look for it.) (I Cor. 10:13.)

Now the reward of overcoming temptations is this - we'll receive a crown of life. Jas. 1: 12. And in the Revelation, how many times is the reward promised to 'those who were never tempted'? NONE! It is always promised to "him that OVERCOMETH."

Then should it seem that you are unable to overcome a certain temptation, pray the prayer that Jesus taught - "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil." And by all means don't boast about starting the battle against sin. Wait till you have finished the battle of life and then "glory in the Lord." Here is a word of wisdom given by a King in the Old Testament to another King who wanted war; "Let not him that putteth on his armor boast, but him that taketh it off." (I Kings 20: 11) Get the point?? "Blessed is the man that endureth temptations, for when he hath been approved, he shall receive the crown of life." I wish each of you great success in the great battle of life.

Teen-age News

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP NEWS

It won't be long now till you will want to send in your reservation for camp this summer. You will probably want to go both weeks, but if you just want to go for one, you may. There is so much in store for the campers this summer that you won't want to miss a single day.

One special feature of this year's camp that you will enjoy is the chorus. There will be singing classes every day just like last year, but this year we are going to have a chorus. We hope that you will enjoy this.

Special Bible classes for the older teenagers have always been an attraction. Chapel and evening services and devotionals before "lights out" are all highlights of the camp. Of course there is so much to do in recreation - swimming, ball games, horse shoes, ping pong, handcrafts, and many other things that you will enjoy.

THE ONE FAITH

BY
BURL CURTIS

therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, ONE FAITH, one Baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Eph. 4: 1-6. To all who respect the authority of the Apostle Paul and who believe the Bible to be God's word, this is the end of the matter. There is one faith. There is one faith just as surely as there is one Lord, Jesus the Christ.

What is this one faith? From God, the giver, it is the Gospel. When Jude wrote to "earnestly contend for the faith" (Jude 3), he was admonishing Christians to contend for the gospel which was "once delivered unto the saints". Paul declared that he preached the faith and the Gospel. Since he preached only one message we conclude that the one faith is the one gospel. "But I certify you brethren that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man." Gal. 1: 11. "But they had heard only, that he which presecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which he once destroyed." Gal. 1: 23. The Father, who loves us, has offered, and is still offering the benefits of this one faith.

From the human side the one faith is to be heard, believed, (Making it our own faith) and followed conscientiously. After God had performed all things necessary for the one faith to be preached, the apostles went forth publishing this very good news. People had an opportunity to hear. The result was faith in the human heart. Paul questions in Rom. 10: 14 "And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher?" He concludes by saying, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10: 17. Just as it is impossible to please God without faith, Heb. 11: 6, so it is impossible to have the true faith without hearing the word of God. My friend, take heed how and what you hear. If you believe anything that did not come by the word of God, it is not of the one faith. Do you believe in the name Lutheran or Methodist? ? If so, you have stepped out of the bounds of the one faith, for these names are not in the word of God.

The one faith must be followed carefully. We are not at liberty to say, " I believe God, therefore, I will do as I please." Such a remark is a paralyzing contradiction. Faith without obedience is like the body without the spirit; dead being alone. When the sweet words of the one faith are first heard, the sinner believes and is moved to repentance. " I tell you, Nay; but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish", are the warning words of Jesus in Luke 13: 3. Upon the confession that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the seeker is then baptized in Jesus Christ. Acts 8: 37-38. He is then in the one faith.

All along the "narrow way" we must examine ourselves, whether we be in the faith. II Cor. 13: 5. We should shed off the heavy coat of tradition, doctrines of men, and going beyond that which is written and let the beautiful coat of the unchanged gospel be seen.

CONGREGATIONAL News

CHESTER, S. C., 135 Saluda St.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist.

The first service in the new building was conducted Sunday, March 15. Previously the church met in a local elementary school building and an old residence. The Sunday afternoon of March 22, 261 attended an area wide singing in Chester. It is thought that this is one of the largest groups to assemble for a singing in South Carolina.

C. W. Bradley, Winston-Salem, N. C., preached in a five day meeting March 23-27, and two were immersed. Since the meeting two ladies have been baptized. Our next meeting is scheduled for the last two Sundays in May with Charles Williamson of Jackson, Tenn. doing the preaching. Our new building is proving a worthy expedient.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., 54 Vance St.
Waymon Love, Evangelist.

We are now in our new building. One person was baptized this month.

STATESVILLE, N. C., Rt. 1, Box 365A
Quincy Carter, Evangelist

January, 1959, marked Bro. Carter's 9th year with the church here. Since then much progress has been made. The attendance has steadily increased. Our average attendance is 120 with an average contribution of $60.00 weekly. We meet each Tuesday night to study God's word, so that we can grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Ladies' Bible Class meets each Lord's day evening. They have accomplished much good. We are also engaged in building a new building. In all of this we give thanks to God and may it all be to his glory. Pray for the work here.

STATESVILLE, N. C., ROUTE # 1.
Brown C. Kinnard, Jr., Evangelist.

We are currently in a program here to appoint elders and deacons. We have just completed a short training course for potential elders and deacons. In this course we emphasized the work of elders and deacons because it was felt that the brethren were well-grounded in the qualifications. We hope before too long to appoint men for this work.

We have had one baptism recently. Bro. C. W. Bradley will preach in our spring meeting the first week in May. We are also planning a vacation Bible school for early June.

We have a teacher training class which meets once each month. We are studying C. B. Eavey's "How to Be An Effective Sunday School Teacher." Our young people meet together once each month for an hour of Christian fellowship and recreation.

Around June 1, I will begin work with the church of Christ in Holmes, Pa. (a suburb of Philadelphia). At that time I shall have been here 2 1/2 years.

BURLINGTON, N. C., 1122 Vaughan Rd.
Bruce R. Curd, Evangelist.

Since last report, a fine young man was baptized, thereby uniting a family in Christ. Our meeting will begin April 21-29 with Bro. Willie Lemons preaching. Efforts are under way to get the "Herald of Truth" on one of the local radio stations here. Nearby, Durham, N. C. may be able to carry this program on TV there. We covet the prayers of our brethren everywhere and trust that 1959 will be a great year for the Lord throughout the Carolinas and the world.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., 1216 The Plaza
T. A. Issacs, Evangelist.

The 1959 Carolina Lectures were held at the church here from April 6-10. About forty evangelists from the Carolinas had a part in the lectures, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. Bro. Jim Kinney, Jackson Park Congregation, Nashville, Tenn. taught a class each afternoon and we are grateful to that congregation for permitting Bro. Kinney to be with us. And to each and every one in the Carolinas who came and had a part in helping to make the lectures a success, we again express our thanks. We enjoyed having each of you visit with us and feel blessed for having had the opportunity of having the lectures in our city. On Sunday, April 5th we set a new attendance record with 174 present for Bible study. Our contributions have been good for the year. We had 2 restorations during the last week in March. The office for the preacher was comple-

ted and a new public address system installed in the auditorium and the nursery rooms. During April plans have been made to start cottage Bible Classes, using "The Church" as the theme, with colored slides for illustrations.

GEORGETOWN, S. C., Hwy. 701
Johnny Sewell, Evangelist.

April 29th at the completion of an attendance drive, 88 were present for Sunday morning Bible classes and 86 were present for morning worship. 111 different persons attended the services during the day. These attendances set new records. The 111 equals our record attendance for a day which was set last year in May, but the vast majority of the people then came from out of town for an afternoon singing and with a few exceptions all those present on the 29th were local persons. The prospects for growth here have never been so good before. Last Sunday evening a fine lady obeyed the gospel. This brings our total membership to 38, exactly twice what it was 15 months ago. The classroom addition to our building is progressing nicely and should be completed within another 6 weeks, the Lord willing. On March 26th a new attendance record for mid-week attendance was set with 42 present. Our average Sunday morning attendance for this year has been 35 and average contribution for the last 5 Sundays is $61.20, an increase of $16.28 over last year's same five Sundays.

COLUMBIA, S.C., 1026 Pope St.
Newton P. Gribble, Evangelist.

Bro. O. P. Baird will accept the work at Pope Street around August 1, 1959. Bro. Gribble will be working with a church in Alabama after this date. Our meeting begins here on May 17 with Bro. Sewell Hall of Camden, S. C. doing the speaking each night through May 23. May 3, 1959 will be the date on which we will hold the first service in our new building.

SENECA, S. C., 706 Adams St.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist.

The work here continues to make progress. The month of March was record month for us, showing the highest monthly average contribution ever. Attendance is about average. Our meeting will begin on May 3 and continue through May 13th. Bro. Bill Stewart, Decatur, Texas will be the speaker. The Decatur church has been contributing to the support of the work here for the past several years. We also plan to have a singing on the second Sunday in the month, the 10th. Even though this date conflicts with some of the other meetings around us, we invite and urge everyone to be with us as much as possible.

GEORGETOWN, S.C., Front St.
I. Gleaton, Evangelist.

The work here is very discouraging but not hopeless. Recently a woman who was formerly a preacher for a non-scriptural organization was baptized by Bro. Gleaton. She owned a building which she has since donated to the work here. We are planning to hold a tent meeting here as soon as a tent can be secured. We are asking all the brethren, both white and colored, to help in this work. Bro. Sewell, Kensington congregation, has been of much help in the work here. We can secure a tent to be used in the work of this and near-by congregations for a cost of $125.00. If you can help in this work contact Bro. I. Gleaton, P. O. Box 635, Andrews, S. C.

May the Lord bless the "Messenger of Truth" as we feel it is a great work.

FLORENCE, S. C., 618 Gregg Ave.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist.

Within the month we shall begin partitioning for additional classrooms, and completely recovering our roof. The "Herald of Truth" is being well received by viewers throughout this area. Joe Riggs, Rockingham, N. C. will do the preaching in a gospel meeting here, May 10-17.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Sans Souci @ Hester
Rawden L. Bullard, Evangelist.

For the month of March our average attendance at Bible school was 82, with a high of 110 on March 29. We had set a goal of 80 at the beginning of the year, but have moved it up to 90 and have surpassed that figure the first two Sundays this month. For the morning worship we set our goal January 1 at 100. In March our average was 95 with a high of 134 on March 29. On April 5 and 12 we had 103 and 104 respectively. When our average attendance equals or exceeds our goal for any calendar month the goal will be moved up. Our contribution averaged $161 per Sunday, up over Jan. ($154) but down from February ($167). Our weakest spots are Sunday evening and Wednesday evening, with averages for March of 38 and 25 respectively.

In the last 30 days we have had 4 restorations, 5 to place membership with us, and last night a man and his wife were baptized. Keep us in your prayers.

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2201 N. Buncombe
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist.

Our best record so far was on March 29 with 93 present for Sunday school and a contribution of $203.46. Bro. James S. Woodroof, West Columbia, S. C. will be the speaker each evening at 7:30 P. M. during our meeting May 3-10.

WILMINGTON, N. C., 215 S. 17th St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist.

Our five night meeting with ten different speakers closed with good visible results. There were no responses to the invitation but it was clearly visible that the preaching had carried conviction to both saint and sinner. Wonderful fellowship among the brethren was also manifest. We firmly believe the influence of the meeting will be visible in days, weeks, and months to come as Christians live closer to the Lord and those out of Christ render obedience to the simple terms of the gospel. Attendance during the meeting averaged almost double the attendance of last year's meeting. Twice this month we have exceeded 90 in our Lord's day services. Since last report 4 have been immersed into Christ and one has been disfellowshipped. Plans are being made for a colored congregation here. Help is still being given the Whiteville congregation -- Abernathy, Texas is considering supporting this work. Work is progressing on our church bus - we hope to have it ready for Vacation Bible School. We are thankful for the "Messenger".

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. 2710 Sunset Ave.
William Wilder, Evangelist.

The only news of importance right now is the contractor has begun work on our new building and informed us that we would be in no later than September.

On April 5th our collection was the highest of the year - $180.71. One was restored Sunday evening, April 12. All of you are invited to our meeting May 10-19, at 7:45 each evening with Bro. Carl Lancaster, Tryon, N. C. preaching.

CAMDEN, S. C., King @ Lyttleton St.
C. C. Vaughan, Evangelist

This congregation will be four years old this coming August. It started with ten members, who obeyed the gospel in the first tent meeting held in Camden by the present evangelist. Our attendance averages about 43. For this year our record attendance so far is 53. Our record offering for this year is $47.26. We conduct fine Bible classes on Lord's day morning. We are conducting house-to-house Bible classes as much as three times a week, using the Jule Miller film strips with much interest.

We are planning for our first gospel meeting this year to begin June 14-26 with U. Shields, Dayton, Ohio doing the preaching.

ATTENDANCE
by James S. Woodroof

t is my firm conviction that most of the ime and energy exerted on "enforcing" hristian duty is a waste of time and energy nless one approaches the problem on a eeper plan than: "you've got to", or "you ught to", or "let's boost our attendance". hat does an unconverted person care a- out what he "ought to do", or "boosting ttendance"? If we can JUST CONVERT he church, the attendance will automatic- lly increase.

TIME IS IMPORTANT

There are 168 hours in every week. The average person spends 7 hours eating; 56 hours sleeping; 60 hours working, and 4 hours reading the newspapers. This leaves 41 hours each week for 'miscellaneous activities'. Can it be possible that any 'converted' child of God is so selfish with his time that he is willing to spend 4 hours each week at church services, worshipping the Great Giver of every good and perfect gift, and studying the Word of Life? Is it possible that we think no more of attending the church services than we do of reading the daily news?

Few member spend as much time reading the Bible as they do reading the papers and magazines!! Few are willing to devote one hour of the miscellaneous 41 each week to do visiting on behalf of the Lord's cause. And many (?) "Christians" think that attending worship on Sunday morning (one hour out of 168) is all the time that God expects them to devote to Him.

Think!!! What do you think God must think of us in the stinginess and selfishness of the precious time that He has given to us?

Reprint original article - Bulletin - March 22, 1959, Quincy, Fla.)

REGARDING THE COLORED CHURCH I SENECA

The colored brethren in Seneca have h started for some while a new meeting hous but the work had to be discontinued du ing last summer, because of a lack of fund They now are anxious to complete this buil ing, but are unable to do so without the a sistance of the brethren elsewhere. T members of the colored church in Sene are but few in number, and have had overcome numerous handicaps and trouble If this work can be completed, then th can go into a building of their own, and have to meet in the "community buildin where all kinds of activities, good and ba are also in progress. Brethren, let's r up, and help these our needy brothers a sisters. They need about $1500 to fin this construction, and if several of the i dividuals and congregations around wo contribute just a little each, this amo could be quickly raised. All Christians the Carolinas, including both races, rec nize that we must help each other. C very existence depends on it! So, let's all we can to assist this small group t needs our aid so badly.

B. Edward Davis

SERMONETTE

As their mother was completing the pu chase of new suits for Charles and Arthu Charles proudly said to his grandmothe in a low but audible tone, "Won't I look nic in church tomorrow?" A friendly lad standing near by, asked, "Oh, do you an your brother go to church?" And sma brother, Arthur, age five, giving her withering glance, scornfully inquire "Where else would you go on Sunday mor ing?" Flushing the lady remarked, "T is the best sermon I've ever heard."

--Selected--
(Reprint from Bulletin, Charleston, S. C.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

UNION, S. C. -- May 3-13, 7:45 each evening, speaker, Sam Norman, Charlotte, N. C.

STATESVILLE, N. C. -- Abilene church, C. W. Bradley, speaker. 1st. week in May.

FLORENCE, S. C. -- May 10-17, Joe Riggs, Rockingham, N. C. will be speaking.

GREENVILLE, S. C. -- Carl Lancaster, Tryon, N. C. will speak each evening at 7:45 from May 10-19, at Augusta Rd. Congregation.

CHESTER, S. C. -- May 24-31, Charles Williamson, Jackson, Tennessee will speak each evening.

GREENVILLE, S. C. -- Buncombe Rd., May 3-10 with Bro. James S. Woodroof of West Columbia, S. C. doing the preaching at 7:30 P. M. each evening.

SENECA, S. C. -- Bill Stewart, Decatur, Texas-speaker; May 3-13.

COLUMBIA, S. C. -- Sewell Hall, Camden, S. C. speaking each evening from May 17 through 23rd.

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C., Bro. Gilbert Kretzer, Florence, Alabama, will hold a 10 day meeting, May 25-June 3, in the Fireman's Recreation Hall at 7:30 each evening.

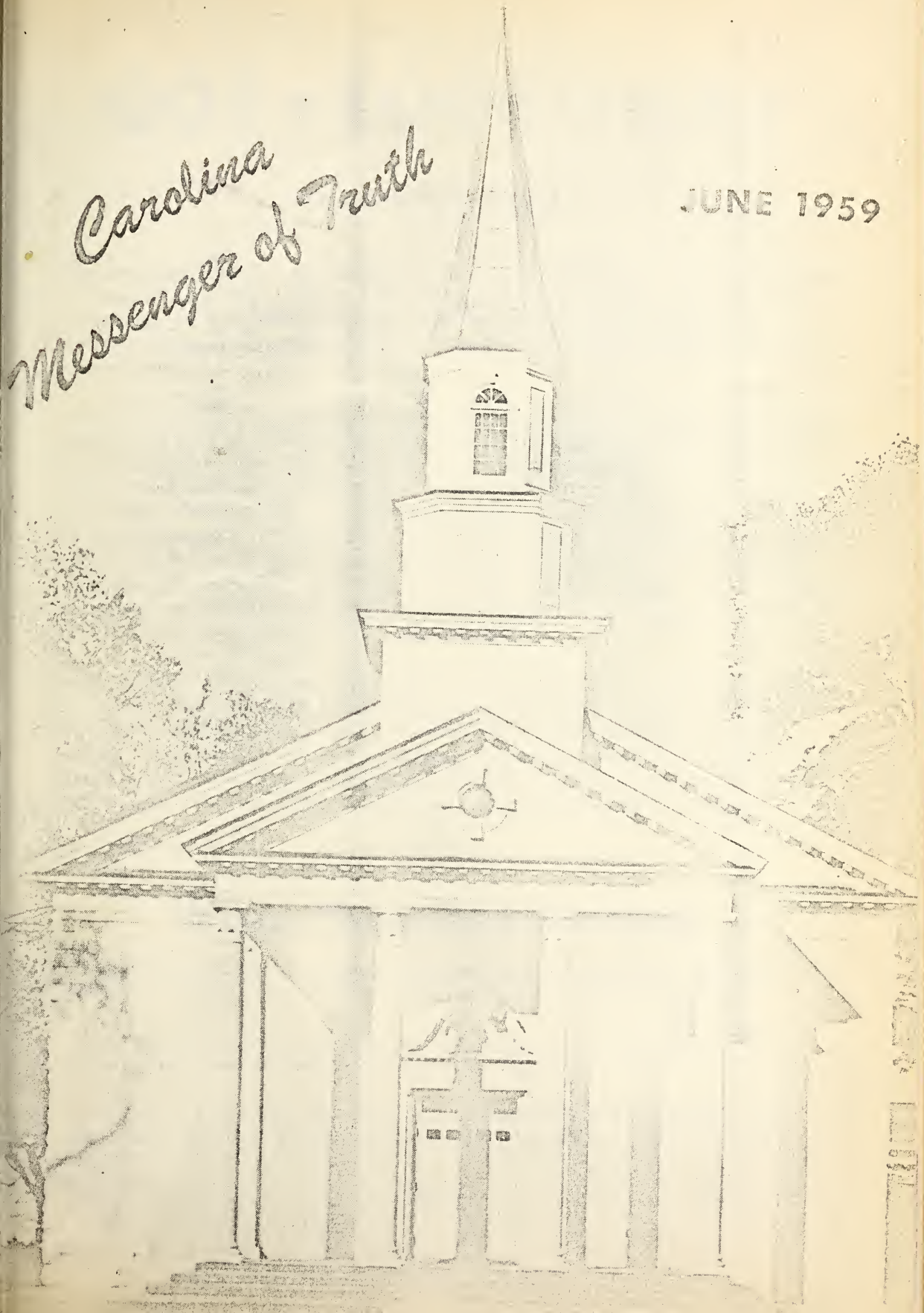
WALDESE, N. C. May 3-10, John Shoun, Hickory, N. C. speaker. 7:30 each evening.

SINGINGS

GREENVILLE, S. C. - Buncombe Rd. - Teen-age Singing
3:00 P. M.; May 3
GREENVILLE, S. C. - Buncombe Rd. - Picnic Lunch 1:00 P. M.
Singing 3:00 P. M. May 10

Carolina Messenger of Truth

JUNE 1959



GO! -TOGETHER!

EDITORIAL by Burl Curtis

That Jesus said, "Go . . . preach the gospel to every creature," is a challenging command, ever present, but have we considered going together? We, too often, have played the 'lone wolf' and have scared the sheep and worn ourselves threadbare thus exposing our discouragement. Consider these Bible examples of 'going together.

Solomon wrote in Ecc. 4: 9-12, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fail, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail agai nst him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken." Could better advice have been given if the wise man had had the work in the Carolinas in mind? Two workers are better than one because they can accomplish so much more. They have a good reward for their labor. They can strengthen one another and can keep their zeal from growing cold. A threefold cord of two workers and God is not soon broken.

Jesus "appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face." Luke 10:1. The Holy Spirit said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul (two) for the work whereunto I have called them." Acts 2:44. Christians should, whenever possible, visit the sick, do benevolent work, and instruct the lost, together. Preachers should work together in meetings, Vacation Bible schools, and even home Bible studies. Working alone is good, but two working together is better.

GO! TOGETHER!!

What They Are Saying

"You are certainly to be commended for taking editorship of the 'Messenger' and for the improvement you are making in its appearance and content."

"Have sent bullentins to Bro. Davis to use in reporting news of the work in Union, yet no reports have been included for the last two months."

"I think it is a fine work and am sure it will go a long way in unifying the churches in this area and promoting the cause in general. God bless this work."

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GOD'S WILL AND MAN'S SALVATION

By C. W. BRADLEY*



Almost all of us are familiar with the expression, "What is to be will be." It may be that you have, at least to some extent, believed this idea. It is a doctrine held by many people. The thinking back of this expression is that God has willed certain things to come to pass and that they must happen in a set pattern .. that God's will is irresistable .. that what he wills to come to pass always happens. Is this true? Does the thing that God wills always come to pass?

God wills that all men be saved. "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Pet. 3: 9. "This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth." I Tim. 2:3. Therefore, if God's will invariably comes to pass, then all will be saved. Thus we would have to accept the doctrine of universal salvation.

But the Bible plainly teaches that all will not be saved. "Enter ye in by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many are they that enter in thereby." Matthew 7:13. In that great judgment day, the Lord will say to many 'I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Matt. 7:23.

Since God wills that all men be saved, and since all men will not be saved, God's will does not always come to pass. We need to do some further investigation. When does God's will come to pass?

When the thing that God wills depends solely upon his action it does always come to pass. This principle is demonstrated in the creation of the world and all life upon this earth. Read the first chapter of Genesis and you will be impressed with the fact that everything came to pass exactly as God willed it. There have been no variations in God's will that, "The earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle and creeping things, and beast of the earth after his kind." Gen. 1:24. One time the people of this earth were destroyed by a mighty flood, but God willed that this never happen again, but rather that this earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up." 2 Pet. 3:10. Men

may choose to disbelieve it, but one day this earth shall pass away. The Bible declares, "It is appointed unto men once to die and after this cometh judgment." Heb. 9:27. This will come to pass. It will come to you; it will come to me. As much as men may love life on this earth, the time comes when all must walk through the 'valley of death'. And even though we may not be ready for such an appointment, one day we will stand before our God in judgment. These are things that God has willed and their coming to pass depends solely on his action. Thus they will be just as he has willed.

But when the execution of God's will is dependent upon man's will, it does not always come to pass. God willed man's happiness in Eden, but man rejected God's rule for happiness and became miserable. Noah and his family carried out God's will and were saved from the flood; all others upon this earth rejected God's will and were destroyed. God willed that the children of Israel inherit Canaan, but because of their disbelief and rebellion, thousands of them were destroyed in the wilderness. I Cor. 10.

In the case of the people of Nineveh, we learn that sometimes "What is to be, isn't." God told Jonah to go to Nineveh and cry out, "Yet in forty days; and Nineveh shall be overthrown." Jonah 3:2-3. But was Nineveh overthrown in forty days? No! "And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not." Jonah 3:10.

Now let us reconsider the idea that God wills that all men be saved. Even though God would have all men to be saved, our being saved depends upon our will to obey. The writer of Hebrews in 5:9 states that Jesus "became unto all them that obey him the author of eternal salvation." Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven." Matt. 7:21.

In order to come into Christ where forgiveness is enjoyed, certain requirements are necessary on man's part. Faith is essential. "He that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. Repentance is essential. "God commandeth all men everywhere to repent" Acts 17:30. Baptism is essential. "Repent ye and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." Acts 2:38. Paul wrote, "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ." Gal. 3:26.

Then after one has come into Christ, he must meet certain requirements to remain faithful to Christ. "Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ." Phil. 1:27. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service. And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Rom. 12:1-2. "As therefore ye received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and builded up in him, and established in your faith, even as ye were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." Col. 2:6-7. "Keep thyself pure" I Tim. 5:22.

God wills that we be happy in this life, "Rejoice in the Lord always". Phil. 4:4. and that we have the 'peace that passeth understanding" abiding in us. Phil. 4:7. But this depends on our will to do those things that would give joy and peace. To

be happy requires that we be right with God, with self, and with our fellowmen.

Thus let us remember that man has a part to play in his salvation. God wills that we be saved and he has richly provided the way. But our being saved depends upon our living in harmony with his will. We must walk in his way. Christ said to the people of his day, "Ye will not come to me, that ye may have life" John 5:40. And, again, "How often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!!" Matt. 23:37. The only thing that keeps anyone from having life everlasting is that he will not come to Christ, and submit to his will. God is willing that you be saved. ARE YOU WILLING?

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THE MESSIANIC PROPHESY FROM THE MINOR PROPHETS

PART IV

BY T. A. Isaacs*



In our fourth and final article in this series we turn from the Messiah and His Kingdom to the people of the kingdom itself. Physical Israel had been God's chosen people, but in this new kingdom, spiritual Israel, not only would the Jews be accepted into it but also the Gentiles. The prophet Hosea in 1:10 of his book shows that all people would be accepted into the kingdom by God: "And it shall come to pass that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God." No longer was it just to be the Israelites, the Jews, but those that were once not called God's people, the Gentiles, would then be called His people. Paul in Romans 9:26 quotes the last part of this verse to show those Christians at Rome, both Jew and Gentile, that Jehovah had called not only the Jews but also the Gentiles. Once this change had taken place both Jew and Gentile had been accepted into God's grace, then Israel, spiritual Israel, would once again attain its rightful relationship to Jehovah who had prepared the way of salvation for them. Paul also makes reference to this verse in II Cor. 6:18 where he is telling the Corinthians to break with heathenism and that God had promised to be their father and that they were to be his sons, and daughters and should therefore "come ye out from among them and be ye separate". Hosea 2:23 also makes reference to the Gentiles being accepted into the Kingdom. There the prophet says: "I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them that my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God". The writers of the New Testament have referred to this verse showing that the prophet spoke concerning this dispensation (the Christian) and this people, Romans 9:25; I Pet. 2:10, Amos 9:12 reveals also to us that "all nations that are called by my name saith Jehovah that doeth this". James in Acts 15:16-18 quotes this passage when the elders of the Jerusalem church and the apostles were gathered together concerning false teachers teaching that the Gentiles must needs be circumcised to be saved. James quotes this passage to show that the Gentiles had been accepted into the kingdom and that the things under the old covenant were not to be bound on them. From this same verse one may see that the pre-

mellennial doctrine is not true. If the doctrine is true, then we Gentiles still have no hope, for according to the premillennialists God has not yet rebuilt the tabernacle of David, and if he has not, all nations cannot come into the kingdom, and we Gentiles of all men "are most miserable." We know this to be false and that God has rebuilt David's taberncale under Chirst as we have learned from Amos 9:12 and Acts 15:16-18. Zechariah also tells us in 6:15 that "they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of Jehovah." Zeph. states in 3:10 that "from beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, even the daughter of my despersed, shall bring mine offering." Isaiah, as we have already seen in these studies together, says in Isaiah 2:2 that "all nations shall flow into it." Hence, we see from these passages that the people in this new kingdom were not only to be Jews but also people of every nation who would call on the name of Jehovah.

Let us now discuss the pure language that would characterize these people in this kingdom. In Zephaniah 3:9 Jehovah speaks through the prophet saying: "for then will I turn to the people a pure language". Notice other passages that throw light on the meaning of the phrase "a pure language." Isaiah declares in 6:5 "Then said I, woe is me for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips and I will dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, Jehovah of hosts." Jeremiah states in 1:9, "Then Jehovah put my words in thy mouth". Daniel helps us to better understand the meaning of phrase "a pure language" when he says in 10:16, "And, behold, one in the likeness of the sons of men touched my lips; then I opened my mouth, and spoke and said unto him that stood before, me, O, my Lord, by reasons of the vision my sorrows are turned unto me, and I retain no strength." Paul wrote to the Corinthian Christians, "Now I beseech you, brethren, trhough the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing." I Cor. 1:10. Furthermore, Peter says, "If any man speaketh, speaking as it were the oracle of God." I Pet. 4:11.

From these passages one can definitely see that the meaning of the phrase "a pure language" is that God would purify the lips of not only His people at that time, (Israel), but also of the Gentiles who were to come into God's grace under the gospel. Then all of God's people were to 'speak the same thing', and 'to speak as it were the oracles of God." All of God's people would then speak the language of faith in one God and one Christ.

These people under the new covenant were also to be united. As Hosea shows in Hosea 1:11, the children of Judah and the children of Israel, all of God's chosen people, would unite and be gathered together in this new kingdom under one head, Jesus Christ, the son of God. The unity that God had always desired of His people would be achieved under this one new head. The twelve tribes had been separated into two groups consisting of ten and two tribes, but now, according to Obadiah, they are united as a flame and a fire in the destruction of Edom, a type of the world. The New Testament as well as the Old Testament teaches that God's chosen people would all be united, Christ having torn down the "middle wall of partition." Undoubtedly the writer of Obadiah made reference to this unity that would exist among God's chosen people whether Jew or Gentile. The Mount of Esau, the world, is set against the mount of Zion, the church, and even though Mount Esau and Mount Zion would be in conflict, Mount Zion will "burn among the, and devour them." Obadiah 17:21.

In closing the discussion of the people of the kingdom, let us notice the wonderful and marvelous blessings that are promised to these people throughout the prophets. The first blessing that we shall notice is the outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh. One may find this prophesy in Joel 2: 28-32 where the Lord speaking through the prophet Joel says: "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions, and also upon the servants and handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit." Peter on the day of Pentecost, after the Lord had sent the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and they began to speak wtih other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance, said: "This is that which hath been spoken by the prophet Joel", and goes on to quote the remainder of the passage. The point is that after having been accused of being filled with new wine by the people that Peter shows that this passage without a doubt refers to the time when the Spirit would be poured out upon them. The significance of verses 28 and 29, I believe is to show that He would pour out His Spirit on all flesh, that is, all would be blessed as a result of this outpouring of the Spirit regardless of whether they were Jews, Gentiles, salves or bondmen.

In Amos 9: 13-15 are some other blessings that are promised to the people in this new kingdom. "Behold, the days come, saith Jehovah, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. And I will bring back the captivity of my people Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them, and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant upon their land, and they shall no more be plucked up out of their land which I have given the, saith Jehovah thy God." The figures which Amos uses here depicts in vivid colors the blessings of the kingdom of the Messiah.

But the greatest blessing promised to those in the kingdom of God is the "remission of their past sins" upon entrance into the kingdom. Isaiah, the prophet of God, said: "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson, they sahll be as wool." How beautiful and soul-comforting are these words of this man of God. If you have never known the peace and happiness of this blessing of God, do as Peter told those believing Jews to do in Acts 2:38, "repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins." It is my prayer in Jesus name that you will do this while time and opportunity is afforded you.

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WHY WERE THE FOUR GOSPELS WRITTEN?

by B. EDWARD DAVIS*

In the very beginning of the New Testament, we find four books which occupy a unique position, not only with regard to the secular books of the world, but with regard to the rest of the Bible as well. In these books, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, we find recorded a story that is not duplicated anywhere else in the world. Often we hear these books called the "biographical" books of the New Testament, for they tell us the life story of Christ.

Yet, there are problems that relate to these books. Sometimes in talking with people, the question arises, "Just what was the purpose that underlay the writing of these records? What was their design?"

Of course, the obvious answer to these queries would be that the four gospels reveal Christ to us, so that we may believe in Him and want to become Christians. And yet, this broad answer, though certainly comprehensive, is not specific enough, for it leaves undiscussed some of the details one would like to have explained.

Therefore, let us begin this study by noticing first of all:

WHAT THEY WERE NOT DESIGNED TO DO!!

First, the four gospels were not designed to tell men what to do to be saved! This may seem startling at first, but with more consideration of the point, it becomes clear that the first four books of the New Testament actually describe the divine side of the plan of salvation, rather than what the lost must do in order to obtain this salvation! The four gospels tell us the story of the cross. They tell us what Christ did to bring salvation to us, or that which was done in order to make salvation possible for the lost world. They tell us of the love of God that prompted Him to send His Son into the world, John 3:16 and of how that Christ lived a life of dedication unto His Father, leaving us an example of pattern that clearly reveals the life He desired His disciples to live. I Pet. 2:21; Phil. 2:5. John, the writer of the fourth Gospel, tells us that the reason why he wrote his account was "that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye may have life in his name." John 20:31. It is true, as you may know, that the terms of salvation were announced by our Lord near the close of the books, Matt. 28: 19-20, Mark 16:15-16, Luke 24:45-47, but it is nonetheless true that a complete explanation of the plan of salvation was not the main intent, the primary purpose, for writing these four stories. We must look further, into the Book of Acts, to find complete and detailed accounts of how individuals become Christians, by obeying the Gospel.

Secondly, we must remember that the four gospels were not written to instruct us to do everything that Jesus did! Does this sound contradictory to our statement above that says that Christ left us an example to follow, in these stories of his life? Well, let us keep in mind that the Law of Moses was in effect all during the personal ministry of our Lord, and since he was a Jew, according to his fleshly relations, he was subject to that Law. Compare Matthew 5: 17-18, where Jesus said that the "Law" would not pass away until all should be accomplished. Consquently, during his life, before the cross, Jesus observed the Law faithfully, taught his disciples to observe the Law of Moses, and censured the Pharisees of His day because of their perversions of it. But, when He died on the cross, he 'took it out of the way, nailing it to the cross' with him. Thus, we are not surprised to learn that Jesus observed the Sabbath Day before he died on the cross, as well as all the other commandments of the Jewish religion, but after his death, the disciples of Christ lived according to the Gospel, the New Testament, which went into effect 'after the death of Him that made it.' Heb. 9: 16-17.

Why, then, do we find the four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, includ-

ed in the list of books that compose the New Testament? If the Law of the Jews was in effect until Christ died, why does not the Old Testament conclude with the Gospel of John, instead of the prophecy of Malachi? The answer is simply this: These books tell us of the preparation for the coming of the Kingdom, which Christ was to establish. They tell us of John the Baptist, the prophet sent by God, John 1:16, unto the house of Israel, Matt. 3:1-9, to make preparation for the coming of Christ, Matt. 3:1-3, John 1:29-34. John's work was preparatory. They tell us of Jesus Himself, who also, during His personal ministry, was sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, Matt. 15:24. The Lord's personal ministry was also a preparatory work. The twelve, in their first mission, and the seventy, were sent by Jesus only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, Matt. 10:5-6; Luke 10:1, and were to proclaim the news that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. So their work too was preparatory. But, when the apostles went forth into the world after receiving the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem, Acts 2, they no longer proclaimed a preparatory Gospel, but now they proclaimed a Gospel founded on fact -- that Jesus had died for the sins of the world, and that those who believe and obey Him can enjoy the forgiveness of sins, and the promise of eternal life!

But this wonderful news could never have been announced unto the world were it not for the marvelous events described in the four books under discussion!

WHAT THEY WERE DESIGNED TO DO!

One of the most valuable purposes of the four gospels lies in the fact that they furnish evidence for saving faith in Christ as the Son of God! Romans 10:17; Heb. 11:6, John 20:30. In these account of the life of our Lord we learn of His sympathy and compassion for humanity, his divine power as God's Son, His sacrifice for our sins, his labors of love among the generation of His day, and of his resurrection from the grave and ascension back to His Father.

But above all, the biographies of Christ tell us of God's power and willingness to save the lost! There is absolutely no reason for anyone to doubt God's love, for in these accounts we are told of a loving Heavenly Father who loved us so much that He was willing to give up His only Son to die for us! Here we find the Lord's soul-searching words, which convict men of their sin, make them ashamed of their transgressions, and through the parables such as the Prodigal Son, we are encouraged and urged to return to our Father who loves us though we are wrong!

The gospels make it possible for us to have faith in Jesus the Son of God, but the book of Acts, which records the activities of the apostles after the giving of the Great Commission, shows us by command and example, what must be done in order to be saved from our guilt, and be taken to live with God in Heaven after a while.

Let us not, therefore, in our study of the Bible, go to the first four books of the New Testament, expecting to find clear and full instructions regarding the plan of salvation for those of us who live in the Christian dispensation.

We need not expect to find therein revealed the divine pattern for the church of Christ our Lord, nor how Christians are to worship, nor any of the other distinctive features of the Gospel age, for these matters are not discussed in these books.

Rather, let us use these accounts of the life of Christ as they were meant to be

used -- to produce faith, love, and devotion in our hearts for Him whose story they tell.

When your mind is filled with wonder and doubt, when misgivings begin to becloud your mind, freshen your enthusiasm and conviction by once again thumbing through the wonderful story of Man's Greatest Friend, our wonderful saviour, our only Redeemer, the Son of God Himself!!

THE CHURCH IN THE CENTRAL PIEDMONT OF NORTH CAROLINA



By HAROLD L. SCOTT*

In the 8 counties of the Piedmont plateau of central N. C., there are approximately 460,000 people, according to the 1950 census. In only three of these counties are there groups of Christians seeking to worship after the New Testament pattern, calling themselves congregations of the church of Christ.

There is a total known membership of 254 within three congregations. The church at Durham has 65 members; at Raleigh, in Wake County, 116 members; at Burlington, in Alamance County, 73 members. The 5 counties bordering these three -- Orange, Granville, Vance, Chatham, and Person, with a combined population of 150,000 people, have no known congregations of the church.

These three congregations themselves are relatively new works, the oldest being Durham which was established in 1943 The church in Durham began in the home of three women who met for worship. During the war, Bro. Bob Sorell and three other families of servicemen were stationed near Durham, and began meeting with these women. A public meeting place was secured and financial support obtained. Later a building was built. Dan Mansur, Vardaman Forrister, and Joe Gray have served this congregation as ministers previously.

In about 1947, Bro. Emil Fails moved to Raleigh and made an effort to start the work there, meeting on the State college campus. Later, on Bro. Bob Sorrell worked with the church in Raleigh. They also met in a public room in a hotel for some time. Bro. Sidney Astin, who now serves this congregation has been with it for the past six years. The church at Raleigh has grown to overflow its present facilities.

The Burlington congregation began as a transplant from the Greensboro church in 1954. It now has a new and lovely building. Bro. Burrell Prince, Bro. Neil Lightfoot and Bro. Bruce Curd have worked with this congregation.

These churches have made progress, but with these statistics before us, each one representing a human soul which is

eternal, how can we say that this is enough? There is an ever present danger in the church of building a building and thinking that we have thus fulfilled our responsibility of preaching the gospel. When we forget our missionary duties and privileges the church becomes no more than a social-worship group, and another denomination has been added to the list.

I believe that our greatest need in the church is an individual awakening to the responsibility of each Christian's producing other Christians through personal teaching. We have perhaps depended too much on Christians moving here from other areas and becoming associated with the congregation and calling this real growth. There is a great need to convert those native to this area and permanently located in it. Only through this means will the church be stabilized upon a firm basis.

What do we need to accomplish this? We need the usual things -- a truly converted membership, plus the financial means to use every avenue of teaching at our disposal. The most effective is personal teaching, but the number of non-Christians so outweighs the number of Christains that we must use a more far-reaching medium. We need more TV programs, more radio programs on a daily basis, more newspaper articles, more filmstrips and home study classes, more man hours of labor for the vineyard, for truly we shall reap what we sow and if we seek we shall find and if we knock it shall be opened.

There are two great challenges in Christianity -- inward, which has to do with our personal growth into a Christlike person, and outward, which has to do with our reaching out to the lost of the world. Each is dependent upon the other and so interwoven that in the true Christian they are not separated. It is our prayer that Christians will rise to meet these two great challenges.

Carolina Bible Camp News

ONLY NINE MORE WEEKS UNTIL CAMP BEGINS!!! If you plan on saving your money so you can go, you had better start now because August 9 will be here before you know it. Don't miss out on this year's camp. It promises to be the finest camp session in the history of the Carolina Bible Camp. Look at what all you will receive this year:

1. TWO FULL WEEKS OF CAMP if you so desire (and about everyone you meet is planning to stay both weeks.)
2. HOME COOKED MEALS 3 times a day. Mrs. Sam Binkley is to be in charge of the cooking this year. We don't call her 'Sun Beam Binkley' for nothing; her home made rolls are out of this world.
3. "DINING HALL" CHANGED TO "MESS HALL". This is due to the fact that H. R. Butler is in charge of it this year, and if that's not going to be a mess, then tell me what is!! You won't want to miss a mess . . . er, a meal!!
4. Life Guard Certificates to be awarded.
5. Better Counsiling.
6. More physical activities.

** These and many more are awaiting you at the CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP opening August 9th through August 22.



ANNOUNCING

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME LUCKY BOY AND GIRL TO ATTEND THE "CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP" FREE OF CHARGE!!

HOW???

IT'S EASY !!!!

All you have to do to win is turn in the greatest number of paid subscriptions for the "Carolina Messenger of Truth", between June 1 and July 15. One boy and one girl will be awarded a prize of one week's free tuition to the Carolina Bible Camp in Aug.

This contest is open to residents of North and South Carolina only, and to those eligible for enrollment in the Camp, between the ages of 9 and 17. If you wish to enter the contest, please inform the staff of the "Messenger" during the month of June. All Tabulation of subscriptions submitted will be made by the staff of the "Messenger" and their decision must be regarded as final. No club subscriptions will be accepted.

Come on, boys and girls, let's see who can turn in the highest number of subscriptions! Do you want to go to camp? All right, get busy!!

DEAR TEENAGERS:

I hope you are enjoying our informal visits together through this paper. Most of all I hope these articles are doing you a favor by helping you in some of the problems of life.

I'm opening this column to you, the Teenagers. If you know of a problem that needs to be discussed, or an article that needs to be written, etc., write me about it. Feel free to write the article yourself; or if you had rather, write me and I will write an article discusssing your problem. This column will not be worthy of publication unless we reach the needs of you, the young people. "Speak for yourself John"; What's on your mind? More than likely it's on the mind of hundreds of teenagers. Why not write in and we'll discuss it in the very best way possible.

Also from time to time guest articles from other men will appear. Such is the case this month. Actually this article by Wyatt Sawyer is for your Father and Mother. Be sure to let them read it.

James S. Woodroof (West Columbia, S. C.

A Program for Teenagers

By Wyatt Sawyer, Port Arthur, Texas.

The usual cry of the teenager is "there's nothing for us to do!" This is a false cry. It is especially false in regards to wholesome entertainment.

What they are saying is: No one has provided us with something to do and we don't know what to do for ourselves. They are saying that they are not competent yet to guide their own lives into channels of activity, nor have their parents or adult friends provided them with a program of activity. This is a much neglected field among Christians.

Teenagers are very socially conscious and therefore have a strong need to be active with other teenagers. They will go with the neighborhood gang, the high school crowd, or the church group depending on which one appeals to them first. But they are going to be somewhere with someone. If Christian parents want them to go with church members then they must make provisions for their social outlet before they get involved with some "wild-driving" neighborhood or school crowd.

The elders of the Proctor St. Church of Christ in Port Arthur, Texas, in the capacity of Christian fathers, are working with parents in the congregation here to provide wholesome outlets for their junior and senior high young people in providing a program of wholesome activities here.

There are only about six unwholesome activities generally chosen by young people: Dancing, drinking, gambling, mixed bathing, high-speed driving and heavy courting. Those youngsters who do such things most often do so because nothing better has been offered in their place.

There are more than 60 wholesome activities open to Christian young people. This is a ratio of 10 good activities available to every bad one. For some reason this fact has never been widely advertised. The failure to inform our young people of the vast number of wholesome activities is one thing that has led to their feeling that "there's nothing for us to do but dance, and neck and joy ride, etc."
Below is the 1959 activities schedule for the Senior Young People who attend Proc-

ter Street and their friends in the neighborhood. It is being submitted to show how many good things await Christian young people. This list was prepared by a committee of our young people along with the guidance of some of the parents. This group plans two activities per month as a rule.

1959 Young People's Activities

January - Table game party
February - Bowling party; Come as you are party.
March - Fish fry; Scavenger hunt.
April - Skating party; Senior banquet
May - Ice Cream party; Hayride; wiener roast.
June- Softball game and picnic; watermelon feed.
July - Miniature golf party; camp out.
August - Bowling party; sunrise breakfast and softball game.
September - Buffet supper; Tramp party.
October - Hayride and box supper; Halloween party.
November - Hamburger feed; Tacky party.
December - Talent night party; Progressive dinner.

your attention, please!!

SPECIAL ARTICLE by B. Edward Davis, News Editor.

The compiling, editing, and publication of news articles for these columns requires a little more time, effort, and ingenuity than you may realize. Several matters have been brought to our attention recently concerning which we feel we need to offer these explanatory remarks:

First, let us make it as clear as possible that the primary source of news items

Continued on page15

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia, S. C. -------7:30 P. M.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C, -----2:30 P. M.
WBTW, Chl. 8----------1:00 P. M.
WUSN, Chl. 6, Charleston---12:30P. M.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C. - 2:30 P. M.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington, N. C. -Noon
WJMX----------2:30 P. M.
WKIX ----------2:30 P. M.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.------- 5:30 P. M.
WLOS, CHl. 13, Asheville---- 9:00 A. M.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C. ----- 2:30 P. M.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C. --6:35 P. M.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham, N. C.-------9:15 A. M.
WGTN, 1400 ---------- 9:00 A. M.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380 -9:15 A. M.
WHIP, Mooresville, N. C.---- 4:30 P. M.
WACA, 1590----------8:40 A. M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.----- 8:45 A. M.
WBCU, 1460 ----------9:00 A. M.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.-- 8:45 A. M.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.----9:30 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C. --10:00 A. M.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

WCGD, Chester, S. C. -------11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C. --11:00 A. M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg, S. C. ----11:45 A. M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590----------5:00 P. M.
WMNC ----------9:30 A. M.
WBCU ---------- 8:45 P. M.

Your Attention, Please

(cont. from page 14)

for this publication is through the specially prepared news articles submitted each month by various congregations over the states. These articles come to my desk, prepared in the form desired by the congregation that submits them. When these reports are received in this form, it is a simple matter to submit them for publication in their original form, with little or no corrections, deletions, or explanatory remarks.

However, several of the churches have not been sending any news reports at all, but have simply placed us on their mailing list for their church bulletins. Now brethren, we are as happy as we can be to receive your bulletins, and would like to receive as many as we can, but we must declare frankly and henestly that this is not the medium by which we had planned to receive our news reports!! Church bulletins will not suffice for this work, since most of the articles contained in local church bulletins are designed primarily for that local congregation, and not for universal publication! So ar as we know, there is nothing wrong at all in telling whose birthday it is, or who is away on a vacation, or what time the monthly business meeting convenes, in a church bulletin, but such matters are not the type news we desire to publish in the 'Messenger'. Besides these problems, there is just too much room for error, if we are required to rewrite your news items gleaning our information from the pages of the numerous church bulletins received. In the past, we have used news from the bulletins, but let us request that you write a news report to us each month, including just such information as you would like to have included in our publication, and we are sure everyone will be much happier.

Secondly, you just must recognize the fact that we have a deadline for receiving your news reports, and that if we should receive a news items for coming month, when that month's issue of the 'Messenger' has already gone to press, then we simply have to omit it. Several items of great interst have not been included in some of our past issues, because of this very thing. TURN IN YOUR NEWS REPORTS SO THAT WE WILL RECEIVE THEM NO LATER THAN THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH! If you send them to us on the 23rd, 25th, or so on, they will just have to be left out. We hope you understand. We don't want to be hard but we just can't hold up the press forever. So, send them in early, and then you won't have to worry about it.

In the third place, let us urge each and every congregation to cooperate to the fullest extent with the staff of reporters who are working through both North and South Carolina. Some fourteen men have been selected to work on the local level, encouraging and urging each local church to be as faithful and prompt as possible in keeping us well-informed regarding the progress being seen. You may expect these men to contact you often. Occasionally, they may ask a great many questions regarding the history, present status, and potential for the future growth of your particular group, but these questions are to be used in articles for the 'Messenger', designed to show the great needs of the church in this area of the world. Do your part to assist them in this work, cooperate with them in every good way, and your efforts will be rewarded, we know.

We do appreciate the very fine way in which you have responded to our appeal for news in the past. Last month, the 'Messenger' contained 20 pages, instead of the usual 16, just because of your wonderful spirit of assistance and cooperation in sending in all the news regarding your congregation. Keep it up, brethren. We'll do our best to print everything that we receive.

CONGREGATIONAL News

DURHAM, N. C., 1323 Watts St.
Harold L. Scott, Evangelist.

It was a wonderful day in the history of the congregation here on May 10. One of those days of worship and fellowship that will be a happy memory for all those who participated in it. It was good to have 24 visitors for the worship service, to run out of chairs in our Bible study classes, to have a new class meeting for the first time, to have over 50 persons at the picnic after the services, and to end the day with a capacity singing. We had a record attendance for morning worship on this day with 97 present. We had 75 for Bible study and 35 for evening worship. Our only regret is that 27 of those who normally worship with us were unable to be with us.

At the April business meeting announcement was made of four men who have been selected as a steering committee for the business affairs of the congregation. These men are to determine the wishes of the congregation, and their meetings will be open to the men of the church.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Buncombe Rd.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

We had a good ten day meeting with Bro. Jim Woodroof, West Columbia, S. C., doing the preaching. We had a singing on May 10 with 13 congregations represented and over 200 people present.

Our average attendance for the meeting was 83.2. We have had three to place membership and one soul restored in May. Our top attendance report since last month was 97 for Sunday school and 125 for worship. High contribution for May was $180. Truly the Lord has blessed us.

WILLISTON, S. C., Halford at Church St.
No Preacher

April 29th ended a ten day meeting here. Bro. Bob Gray from the River Street church, Valdosta, Ga. was the speaker in this effort. One was baptized during the meeting. Five were baptized during the week prior to the meeting.

At the present time we are without a full time preacher. Efforts are being made to obtain one in the near future.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., 54 Vance St.
Waymon Love, Evangelist.

We had one restoration on May 3 and eight persons have been identified with the congregation here in the last three weeks. Our present membership is 68.

ANDREWS, S. C.
I. Gleaton, Evangelist

The elders here at Andrews, S. C. congregation want to make it known to all the bretren of Church of Christ that there has been in times past much strife and division in the congregation here. This however has been overcome and all the members here now are working together for Christ and for the building up of his kingdom. Bro. I. Gleaton was the minister here during this strife but he remained steadfast and true. The elders further ask that all Christians everywhere contact Evangelist Johnny Sewell, Georgetown that he may tell them what he knows concerning the work here and the faithfulness of its members and Bro. I. Gleaton, Evangelist.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., 205 N. Claiborne
Ray D. Fullerton, Evangelist.

We are pleased with some aspects of our growth, though there is much to be desired in other areas. As you may know, we

have been but 21 months, organizing Aug. 11, 1957. We employed our architect on July 28, 1958, but it has taken more than nine months to get the plans completed! Monday of this week we gave what we hope will be our final approval on our plans; bids are being advertised for this week. We are supposed to open them May 28. If they are acceptable, we should begin construction on our building early in June. Some changes may be necessary, however, to cut down on the over-all cost, which we hope will be less than $35,000. We will have six classrooms (one of which is a nursery), a study, and an auditorium capable of seating around 228, with overflow areas for about fifty more. It will be air-conditioned.

Sunday, May 3, we had 74 in Bible school and 76 in worship and on April 26, we had 74 in Bible school and 86 in worship.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Box671, Fairview
No Preacher

Remember us in your prayers. As you know, we are few in number and are having financial difficulty in building our new building. We are now in the basement, using a sand floor temporarily.

We do not have a regular preacher so the brethren are doing the preaching. If you know of an available preacher, please contact us.

BURLINGTON, N. C., 1122 Vaughan Rd.
Bruce R. Curd, Evangelist.

Our meeting closed, April 29, with Bro. J. W. Lemmons, Columbia, Tenn. doing the preaching. There were no conversions, but many visitors attended for the first time and some excellent messages were presented. Other plans for the year include a vacation Bible school, June 15, and a fall meeting in October. Bro. Curd will hold meetings in Holston, Va., June 22; Marion, N. C., June 1; Lynchburg, Va., Oct. 4.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., 1216 The Plaza
T. A. Issacs, Evangelist

We are now preparing our program for our vacation Bible school, to be held during the week of June 8. We are anticipating another good school, as the boys and girls eagerly await this event each year. Bro. Issacs has been away in meetings this month. He reported a good meeting in Winston-Salem, at the South Fork church, with two baptisms. He is currently engaged in a meeting in Mobile, Alabama.

LEXINGTON, N. C., 16 Oak Avenue
Jack L. Bailey, Evangelist.

We have acquired a meeting house and a preacher's home. The new location is 16 Oak Avenue with the preacher's home next door. A singing was held here on May 31, at 2:30 P. M.

TRYON, N. C., Box 1055
Carl E. Lancaster, Evangelist

During the month of April Bro. Charles Lemons of the White Oak congregation in Chattanooga, Tenn. preached in a series of meetings in Tryon. We feel that it was among the best meetings that have been conducted here. One obeyed the gospel and eight or ten non-members were present from the community for most every service.

ROCK HILL, S. C. 1053 Richmond Dr.
H. G. Slatton, Evangelist

One baptism recently. C. A. Buffington will hold our spring meeting beginning May 31. We hope to begin construction on our new building shortly.

SENECA, S. C. (colored)
Ernest Butler, Evangelist
Reported by B. Edward Davis*

Most of you probably saw the article placed in the 'Messenger' last month regarding the needs of the colored church in Seneca. These brethren stand in need of assistance. Bro. Ernest Butler is the faithful evangelist who has stood by this group for a long time and has received very little as remuneration for his work. Bro. Butler lives in Greenville and has to travel a distance of 80 miles, round trip, to preach for this congregation. They are presently meeting in a community building in Seneca, where all types of worldly activity also take place. They meed to finish their church building, so they can go into a place of their own to worship.

Bro. G. F. Gibbs has recently tried to awaken some interest in this work among the white brethren in surrounding areas, and has contributed liberally from his own means. It is my understanding that he is attempting to raise support in Tenn. also.

Surely some of the larger congregations have ten dollars in their budget that is not being used, and this amount, small as it may seem, would be of assistance to this needy work. Think about it, brethren, and determine to help these our fellow-Christians, who have been neglected and ignored too long.

*Minister, white congregation, Seneca, S. C.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Augusta Rd.
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

I had an enjoyable meeting with the church in Shady Valley, Tenn. on April 20-30. Seven young people were baptized and the Sunday morning attendance record was broken with 153 present. Bro. and Sis. Ernest Shoaf are zealously working in the valley and elsewhere.

May 19 marked the close of a very fine meeting here at Augusta Rd. Bro. Carl Lancaster's preaching was outstanding. Three were restored and the congregation's efforts were further rewarded by the great number of visitors who attended.

UNION, S. C., P.O. Box 64
James S. McDonald, Evangelist

After months of study and prayer, the elders and men meeting in business meetings of the church of Christ, Union, S.C. have purchased land for the future new meeting house of the congregation here. This is one of the most progressive steps taken in the building program of the church.

The land purchased is a total of 1.6 acres on one of the busiest highway intersections in Union county. The land is well laid out and will make an ideal building site for a place of worship. A new mill of modern design is being built near by and plans call for a new restricted residential development to begin in the area soon.

Our sping meeting ended on May 13. Bro. Sam Norman delievered some most challenging sermons. On Sunday morning May 3, one was restored. We rejoice with this one who is the ninth to be restored this year. The meeting has resulted in a renewed effort on the part of the members here to go out and use our talents for the Lord.

CHESTER, S. C., 135 Saluda St.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist.

The Chester church closed an eight day meeting last night with Charles Williamson of Jackson, Tenn. preaching. This opportunity is used to invite the Carolina con-

gregations to the "formal" opening of our new building on the afternoon of June 7 at 3 o'clock. Bro. Mack Craig, minister of the Charlotte Ave. church in Nashville and dean of the David Lipscomb College will deliver the sermon. This service will be broadcast. Accept this as your personal invitation to be with us on the announced occasion.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Judson, 2 Marble
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist.

We continue to see some progress here and are thankful to the Lord for His blessing. Since our last report, we have had two who confessed wrong and two to place membership. For the 4th time this year we have seen our Bible study attendance on Sunday morning make a new record. On March 29 we had 144 present. The contribution for the month of Feb. averaged $172. 56 per week; March $188. 04, April $169. 59. Next month we are planning to have a Vacation Bible School, June 8-12. We also have a meeting scheduled for June 21-28 with Bro. Lexie B. Ray, Jacksonville, Fla. doing the preaching. On Sunday, June 28, we plan to have a "homecoming" with dinner on the grounds following the morning worship service. We cordially invite others to come and be with us in the meeting and homecoming.

ANDERSON, S. C., Box 1133
G. W. Nicholas, Evangelist

The church of Christ meeting at 1400 S. McDuffie Street, Anderson, South Carolina is to begin a series of Gospel meetings June 7-16th with Barney Cargile, Jr. doing the preaching. Brethren your cooperation and prayers are most humbly solicited. Shall we see you then? The time is 7:30 P.M. each evening.

LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA
no preacher

The first meeting was held here in 1952 in a rented building. In 1956 a $2500 building was constructed and there is an outstanding debt of $600 on this loan. Since 1956 the members have been doing the preaching. They have received some help from Bros. Clifton Walters and Bro. Walter Neal. At present Bro. James A. Davis is conducting services on Sunday afternoons and a mid-week service. There are 21 members, 12 of which are active with a $25. 00 per week contribution. The members here hope for a full time preacher, but his personal support would have to be received from outside. This is a beautiful city of at least 8000 people.

FLORENCE, S. C., 618 Gregg Ave.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist.

Joe Riggs, Rockingham, N. C. has just concluded a very fine gospel meeting here. There was more interest, a higher average attendance, and more visitors than ever before. The management of WOLS radio donated time to enable us to broadcast each week-day. One young man, a visitor from the Rockingham, N. C. area was baptized into Christ. The church in Florence is stronger for Bro. Riggs' preaching.

STATESVILLE, N. C., P. O. Box 1532
Quincy C. Carter, Evangelist.

The work here is going along in a good way. The congregation is steadily increasing. For the last month there were 3 restorations and one baptism. We are having high records in attendance and good contributions. We are grateful to have Bros. Magellan Stevenson and Chrales Wilson to preach in the absence of Bro. Carter.

VALDESE, N. C., Box 72
James A. Davis, Evangelist

Our meeting with John Shoun, Hickory, N. C. closed on May 10. Bro. Shoun is a very effective preacher and delivered some wonderful sermons. There were numerous visitors present from Valdese as well as from surrounding congregations. The church in Hickory gave wonderful assistance, coming over on each Sunday evening and on Wednesday evening. On those nights our attendance was up to approximately 70.

WEST COLUMBIA, S. C,, Box 44
James S. Woodroof, Evangelist

By the date of this being published, we will have concluded our spring meeting. C. H. Woodroof, father of Jim Woodroof our local evangelist, is to do the preaching. We are almost ready to go into our new Educational Building. This will provide us with 8 (eight) more classrooms and a Study and two rest rooms. Progress continues to be made in every way. For this we are indeed thankful.

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

1959 BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT

The 1959 Blue Ridge Encampment will be held June 22-26 at the Blue Ridge Assembly 10 miles east of Asheville. There will be three programs - one for adults, one for young people and one for children. South and North Carolina preachers on the teaching staff are Dabney Phillips, J. D. Parker, Paul Sikes and T. A. Issacs. Plan to attend this encampment with your family.

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

GOSPEL MEETINGS

ASHEBORO, N. C. Bro. Paul Sikes, Salisbury, N. C. will be the speaker each evening of our meeting, June 7-13.

SALISBURY, N. C. Bro. Raymond Crumbliss, speaker, each evening at 7:30 P. M. from June 16 through June 24.

ALBEMARLE, N. C. Bro. Raymond Crumbliss, Tuscumbia, Ala. will speak each evening June 25-July 2.

ANDERSON, S. C. June 7-16 is the date for a meeting here with Bro. Barney Cargile, Jr. Services each evening at 7:30 P. M.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Judson. Each evening at 7:30 P. M. from June 21 through June 28 with Bro. Lexie B. Ray, Jacksonville, Fla. doing the speaking.

JUDSON, GREENVILLE, S. C., Homecoming service, June 28th. Basket lunch immediately following the morning service.

CHESTER, S. C. "Formal" opening services, June 7, 3:00 P. M. with Bro. Mack Craig, Nashville, Tenn. speaking.

Carolina Messenger of Truth



JULY 1959

EDITORIAL

Scattered Abroad

by BURL CURTIS
Greenville, S. C.

"And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution a gainst the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughou the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephe to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havock of th church, entering into every house, and haling men and women, committted them to priso Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." Act 8:1-4. The devil truly thought he had won a great victory by scattering the disciples an by separating them from the apostles. But another one of his anticipated victories turn into a great defeat. The scattered disciples rapidly established congregations in both Ju daea and Samaria What was the cause of all this evangelistic activity? Persecution scattered them but their love and knowledge of the word caused them to preach it after the were scatttered.

To pray for persecution is like asking for trouble and who would do it? Perhaps there ar some Christians who, only by persecution, could be persuaded to preach the word beyon their own community. However, there are many who would voluntarily scatter themselve to a different section of a larger city. We need more congregations in our larger cities In many areas to drive 20 miles is to travel among 30,000 people. What is 20 miles? T the Christian it is a short distance, easily and quickly traveled but to the unconverted it ma be the distance between heaven and hell. Are there not other who will go into counties where there is no congregation? Bro. Harold Scott's report, which appeared in last month' issue, showed five counties in North Carolina - Orange, Granville, Vance, Chatham, ar Person - with a combined population of 150,000. There is not a church of Christ in thes counties! Who will go and how SOON? We look forward to the day when there will be a cor gregation of the Lord's church, not only in every county, but in every community.

Let me call attention to two fine examples of going "everywhere preaching the word." A a result of the work of Ernest Shoaf and Howard Winters a new congregation has been estab lished in Clifton, N. C. The church in Aberdeen, N. C. now has six members instead of t because a number of preachers went there and preached the word.

Persecution may or may not come again, but we must learn from the example of Acts 8 ar voluntarily scatter ourselves abroad and go everywhere preaching the word.

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

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WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 P. M.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington, N. C.	-noon
WJMX	2:30 P. M.
WKIX	2:30 P. M.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 P. M.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 A. M.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 P. M.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 P. M.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 P. M.
WHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 P. M.

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WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	10:00 A. M.

MONDAY-FRIDAY

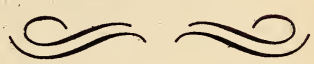
WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.	11:45 A. M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.



WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING IF THE RADIO AND TELEVISION LISTINGS HEREIN ARE CORRECT OR COMPLETE UNLESS YOU LET US HEAR FROM YOU REGARDING THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE PROGRAMS BROADCAST IN YOUR AREA!

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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(Page Three)

The Importance Of Obeying The Gospel

by C. W. BRADLEY, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. (South Fork)

Speaking of Christ in Hebrews 5:8-9, the apostle Paul affirms that, "Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." No words could make plainer than do these the fact that salvation is dependent upon obedience to Christ. And yet there are those who would have us believe that there is no such thing as obeying the gospel.

It is said that "salvation is by faith," and to this we fully agree. This writer has preached many sermons on the necessity of faith in the salvation of the soul. "Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that deligently seek him." Heb. 11:6. "He that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. The person who refuses to believe can have no hope. All that we do in service to God must be by faith; otherwise, it is of no value. "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin." Rom. 14:23. Every step toward heaven is a step of faith, "For we walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Cor. 5:7. Thus we know that salvation is by faith, but some tell us that salvation is by "faith only." They have written into their creeds the statement, "We believe that man is justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine and very full of comfort." The expression 'faith only' is found in the Bible, but notice how it is used, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only." James 2:24. Therefore, the doctrine of 'salvation by faith only' is a plain contradiction of the word of God. Salvation by Faith? YES! Salvation by faith only? NO!

It is said that "salvation is by grace," and to this we fully agree. For the past fifteen years this writer has been preaching that no man can earn his way into heaven; that no man can be good enough to walk up to God and say, "I deserve heaven because of all that I have done." To the Ephesian Christians Paul wrote, "For by grace have you been saved through faith." Eph. 2:8. In his letter to Titus he said, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." Titus 2:11. But the next verse says that this grace hath appeared, "Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." Titus 2:12. Therefore, the grace of God teaches us to do some things. Surely salvation is a gift from God. It originated with him. His son died to make it possible. But remember too, that Christ is "the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." The gift must be accepted, and the only way man can accept it is by meeting the conditions given by the author. He who refuses to yield himself in submission to the commands of Christ rejects the grace of God.

It is said that "salvation is by the blood of Christ" and to this we fully agree. We firmly believe that, "There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins; and sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains." We believe that "There is power in the blood." We sing, "What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

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We know that sinners are "Redeemed with precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, even the blood of Christ." I Pet. 1:18-19. But we also know that this precious blood was shed in the death of our Lord, and "That so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death. Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up, from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Romans 6: 3-4.

Salvation is by faith; it is by grace; it is by the blood of Christ, but this does not exclude obedience. Don't forget the statement in Hebrews 5:9, "Christ is the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." The Saviour said, "Not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21. That disciple whom Jesus loved wrote, "And hereby we know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." I John 2:3-4. Christ said, "If you love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. Throughout the land people sing that well-known song, "O, how I love Jesus," and yet many of these same people stubbornly refuse to obey some of the commands of Jesus. Again, Jesus said, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15: 14. Perhaps there is no better-loved song among all people than, "What a friend we have in Jesus." And yet, how many who sing this only song refuse to do what Christ has commanded them?

To the Christians in Rome, the inspired Paul wrote, "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." Romans 6: 17-18. Language could not be plainer than this which states that we were made free from sin when we obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine delivered us. Immediately preceeding this statement, Paul said that like as Christ was buried and raised so we are buried by baptism and raised to walk in newness of life. "Being then made free from sin, ye became servants of righteousness." Yet some tell us that baptism has nothing to do with salvation. Christ plainly said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mark 16:16.

The apostle Peter asked, "What shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" I Pet. 4:17. This question is answered by Paul, "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thess. 2:7-9.

Peter also states that we have purified our souls in obeying the truth. I Pet. 1: 22. And in the last chapter of the Bible and verse 14 we read, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

In the light of all these passages and many others, I sincerely plead with all who are lost to obey the gospel of Christ. Do not be guilty of rejecting any of the commands of Christ. If you do, you cannot be saved.

OUR NEEDS

by JOHNNY SEWELL, Georgetown, South Carolina.

In coastal South Carolina, from the North Carolina to the Georgia lines, a distance of approximately 200 miles, seven white and three colored churches of Christ meet for work and worship.

The church in Myrtle Beach began in March, 1957. Previously the Christians in Myrtle Beach had driven to Georgetown, a round-trip distance of 70 miles, to services. The membership now stands at 25, the majority of which are service personnel and their families. The congregation presently meets in the Fireman's Recreation Hall for Sunday services and in various homes for mid-week studies. A well located lot has been given the church on condition they build an attractive meeting house on the property. A great work can be done in Myrtle Beach. Two pressing needs are a full-time evangelist and funds with which to build a meeting house and support a preacher. This is a worthy and needy work and we hope those who are in a position to help will do so.

Traveling south, we next come to Georgetown, a county seat town of about 10,000. For several years Bro. George S. Smith drove each Sunday from Charleston, a round-trip distance of 120 miles, to preach for the church. During much of this time the congregation met in a union hall, but about five years ago a neat block building with three class rooms and an auditorium which seated 70 was constructed in a new residential area of town. On January 1, 1958, the congregation secured its first full-time preacher, Johnny C. Sewell, supported by the Wingate congregation in Nashville, Tennessee. In the seventeen months since then, 17 have been baptized and 5 restored. The membership grew in the last seventeen months from 19 to 44. The congregation's interest, attendance and contributions are steadily growing; the future of this work is very bright. At present a five classroom and baptistry addition is nearing completion and the original building is being remodeled to accommodate the growth.

In Charleston there are three white congregations, the oldest of which is the Riverside Park church. This congregation is self-supporting, has an average weekly contribution of $157 and an average Sunday morning worship attendance of 87. Rawden L. Bullard is the evangelist. They own a neat meeting house.

Without a doubt the biggest congregation in coastal S. C. is Charleston's Durante Avenue. G. Vincent Gaskill is the preacher. The contribution averages $250 per Sunday and the morning worship attendance is approximately 150. One part of their fine work program is supporting the "Herald of Truth" over WUSN-TV. This telecast does much good, not only in Charleston, but in the surrounding areas as well. These brethren own a very fine meeting house.

The third and newest congregation in the Charleston area meets on Folly Beach Rd. They begun work in 1957. They meet in a rented, converted dwelling. The congregation has about 12 members with a weekly contribution of $20. Kenneth R. Inabinett works with this congregation.

As we continue south, we next come to

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Beaufort. The church began here in 1952. Since that time 46 have been baptized. As this is near Parris Island Marine Base, the membership is, to a large degree, transient. The faithful membership now stands at about 40, with the morning worship attendance being consistently in the 80's. The average weekly contribution is $130. The church owns its building, but is not debt free. The auditorium is overcrowded. The congregation is seeking to pay the indebtedness ahead of schedule and be free of this indebtedness by June, 1960. They already need more room to accommodate the ever growing crowds. This congregation became self-supporting in January of this year and Dale Smelser is their full-time evangelist.

The other white congregation in this area is in Walterboro, which began in 1954, with 6 members. Edwin Hayes is now well in his third year of work with this congregation, during which time there have been 10 baptisms. The membership now stands at 25. The Riverside Drive congregation in Nashville assisted the church in buying a meeting house in the heart of town, a preacher's house and in supporting Bro. Hayes.

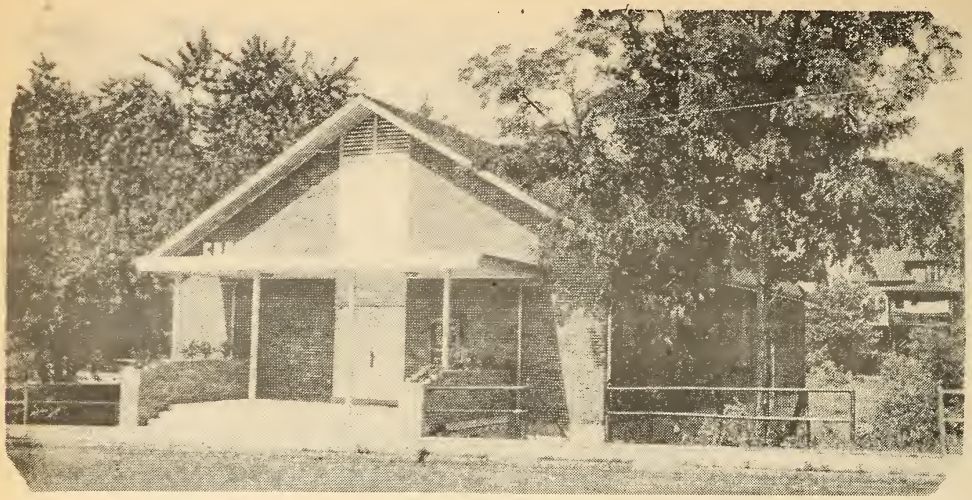
In the coastal area, whose population is at least half colored, there are only 3 colored congregations. These are located in Andrews, Georgetown and in Charlestown. The colored church in Georgetown has three members with Bro. Issac Gleaton serving as the evangelist. The church in Andrews has about 50 members and owns a meeting house, while the church in Charleston has about 60 members with a weekly contribution of $65. Th is presents one of our greatest needs; many sound and reliable colored preachers to move into this area and plant the cause with wisdom and to stay with the congregations thus established until they have been well watered.

The vast majority of the progress here, as in other areas of the Carolinas, has been made since 1950. May the Lord continue his favor upon us so that within the next ten years every community will know of the Saviour and his church!!

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP

If you plan on saving your money so you can go, you had better start now because August 9 will be here before you know it. Don't miss out on this year's camp. It promises to be the finest camp session in the history of the Carolina Bible Camp. Look at what all you will receive this year:

1. TWO FULL WEEKS OF CAMP if you so desire (and about everyone you meet is planning to stay both weeks.)
2. HOME COOKED MEALS 3 times a day. Mrs. Sam Binkley is to be in charge of the cooking this year. We don't call her 'Sun Beam Binkley' for nothing; her home made rolls are out of this world.
3. "DINING HALL" CHANGED TO "MESS HALL". This is due to the fact that H. R. Butler is in charge of it this year, and if that's not going to be a mess, then tell me what is!! You won't want to miss a mess . . . er, a meal!!
4. Life Guard Certificates to be awarded.
5. Better Counsiling.
6. More physical activities.



"A NEW CHURCH BUILDING"

Our meeting with Bro. Elvis Huffard, Mayfield, Ky. closed June 3 with 5 responses to the Lord's invitation. Two were restored, one identified, two baptized. On the Sunday prior to the meeting, two were restored and the Sunday following the close, six more were restored. This makes a total of 13 responses since May 24. Our number now totals 72. Two years ago our membership was 38. We are thankful to "Him" who "give the increase" for our continued growth. When in the Asheville area visit with us in our new meeting place one block North of the Courthouse, 54 Vance St. Waymon Love, Evangelist.

Consider This!

I remember that when Christian teachers told me long ago that I must hate a bad man's actions but not the man, I used to think this a silly, straw-splitting distinction. How could you hate what a man did and not hate the man? But years later it occurred to me that there was one for whom I had been doing this all my life - myself! C. S. Lewis

(20th Century Christian, Feb., 1959)

THANK HIM!

Should you think that the preacher has directed his entire sermon just to you, why not thank him? Has he not shown you a favor indeed to spend from one-half an hour to a full hour just to help you personally with your problems and to help you to have a greater guarantee of God's approval? -seleeted-

(Gospel Digest, April, 1955)

ASK YOURSELF

by NELSON M. SMITH, Kinston, N. C.

The Bible clearly teaches that we are to sing with the spirit and with the understanding. I Cor. 14:15. It also teaches that one purpose in singing is edification, both of ourselves and of those who hear us. Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16.

It appears that we are not getting this lesson for there is a wide gap between what we sing and what we practice. For example, we sing:

"Trust and Obey" but do neither.
"No, Not One" but evidently have in mind five and ten dollar bills for the offering.
"Must I Go, and Empty Handed?" but, usually do.
"We're Marching to Zion" but our lives are headed in the opposite direction.
"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" then do all we can to sever it.
"Let Him In" then shut the door in His face!!
"Come to the Feast" but never act like we are hungry.

THE CHURCH IN NORTH-CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA!

by OLAN HICKS, High Point, North Carolina

The church in this area is progressing methodically with good cooperation and fellowship. The growth has been constant for some time now and we are just about reaching the point where we have strength and numbers enough to be even more effective in the future. We expect the movement to gather real strength in this area now.

The South Main congregation in Winston-Salem, largest in the Carolinas, plans to host the 'Carolina Lectures' in the spring. The South Fork congregation there acquired a beautiful new building this year. Bro. Bradley and Bro. Parker, along with the leaders of the two congregations are doing tremendous jobs in their own locations as well as assisting a great deal elsewhere.

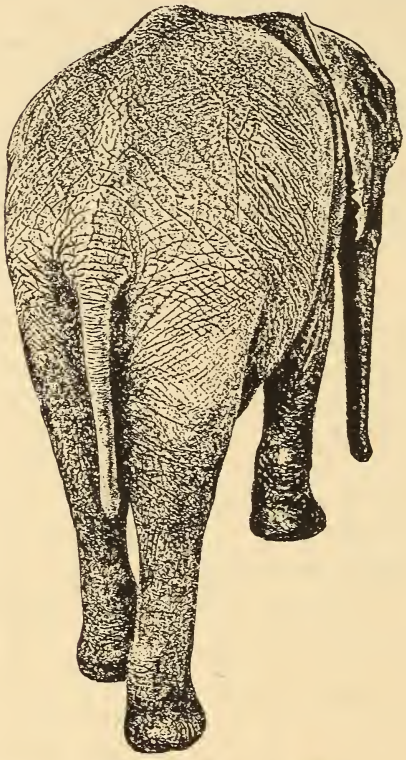
The Lexington congregation is still very small with an attendance of about fifteen or twenty. Bro. Jack Bailey and others from Winston-Salem are putting forth a very strong effort and are seeing results. Last month the congregation there moved from a private home to a building located at 16 Oak St. Their attendance and interest is growing.

The congregation at High Point seems to have taken a "new lease on life." It is self-supporting, although they are still not quite meeting the budget every month. In the past year the attendance has risen from 50 to around 80 with contributions averaging $120 per week. In the past eight months, five have been baptized; six restored. Several non-members from the community attend regularly and much seed has been planted. They also have a weekly radio program which has done much good.

We thank God daily for the interest and success we are experiencing in this area. May our optimism continue and bear a great deal of fruit. Pray for us in this field.

BOYS! - GIRLS!

There Are Just A Few More Days Left



Get Behind The Big PUSH

WHO KNOWS?? The last subscription you send in may be the one that will win you a free week's stay at the CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP. Remember that all subscriptions must be in the hands of the "Messenger" staff not later than July 15. No club subscriptions will be accepted.

Send the name and address of the one for whom the subscription has been made along with $2.00 and your address and full name and age. One boy and One girl will receive a trip.

HURRY!!!! GET YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS IN TODAY!! YOU MIGHT WIN!!

TEEN TOPICS

BY James S. Woodroof
West Columbia, S. C.

"THE SIN OF BEING ORDINARY"

(Guest article written by Dan H. Woodroof, who preaches with the church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.)

There is nothing wrong about being ordinary, if you are talking about mere financial or social standards. Lincoln's famous comment was: "God must love common people, he made so many of them." The geniuses are few and far between, and they would be useless if they did not have us common people to furnish a demand for what they have to supply. From the standpoint of the world, only a few can be famous - the rest of us must be ordinary men and women. But to be ordinary from the moral and spiritual standpoint is a sin. And the first problem that faces our young Christians is the inate desire within us to conform, to be like those around us. Paul confronts the Corinthians with this charge: "With jealousy and quarrels in your midst, are you not behaving like ordinary men?" I Cor. 3:3. Ancient Israel's inclination to be like those round about is a common characteristic of mankind, and it is a problem for young Christians, but common tendencies do not produce uncommon qualities. Who wants to be COMMON? Why should I desire to be like others if others are not what they ought to be? A Christian will be governed by principle rather than by preference or policy.

This is one of the greatest problems our young Christians have to overcome. And, indeed, we are not free from it when we become grown. It is one of the hardest parts of being a Christian - to be different. We are queer human beings! We sometimes get the idea that most people like to do things to set them apart from the crowd. And trifles may make it seem so, but no, we like to be alike. In "The Plastic Age", by Percy Marks, the English professor heaped bitter sarcasm upon the young men in his class in these words:

"What horrible little conformers you are, and how you loathe anyone who doesn't conform! You dress both your bodies and your minds to some set model. Just at present you are making your hair foul with some sort of perfumed axle grease; & nine-tenths of you part it in the middle. It makes no difference whether the style is becoming to you or not; you slick it down and part it in the middle. The same thing is true of clothes. Last year everyone wore four-button suits and very severe trousers. This year everyone is wearing Norfolk jackets and bell-bottomed trousers, absurd things that flop around the shoes, and some of them all but trail on the ground. And as I said before, you insist on the same standardization of your minds. Just now it is not au fait to like poetry; a man who does is exceedingly wet, indeed; he is effeminate, a sissy. As a matter of fact, most of you like poetry very much!"

You can see from the description of the clothing that this was written many years ago, but the problem then was the same as it is now for human nature has not changed. Let's go back twenty centuries and we find the admonition the same: "And be not fashioned according to this world: Rom. 12:2. We are much more comfort-

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able when we conform, fit in, trim life down to a dead average. That is what the world does to us. To be sure, it may lift the lowest levels, but it beats down the high levels, too - the high levels of Christian principle. "Everybody's doing it" is the motto of young and old.

I believe that the problem of "being different", the problem of being "A people for God's own possession" is the problem which underlies most every other problem facing our young Christians. I know that inherent in man is the human desire to satisfy the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life and that this characteristic of our makeup is the center of gravity which continually pulls us down. The average person, the common run of folks, the ordinary man, yields to a great extent to this pull of gravity. But that is exactly why "everybody's doing it", so to speak.

This human characteristic of wanting to be like everybody else is one of the best arguments in favor of Christian education. It is immeasurably easier for our young people to be what they ought to be and gain the Christian strength they need and which they must have, if they attend a Christian college. The stronger influence in such an institution is toward righteousness. The stronger influence in our State universities is toward infidelity and unrighteousness. Indeed, immorality is held up as the real way of life taught by the professors under the name of "Humanism". Even in our public schools on the lower educational level, the tendency in practically all extra-curricula activities is toward the flesh, and, indeed, toward that which emphasizes the satisfaction of the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eye.

Another problem which our young people face is: Going contrary to those things which our community leaders, school teachers, Parent-Teachers associations and civic clubs and even some churches endorse. And of course, I have reference to certain kinds of recreation or entertainment. There is not only the fear of criticism and ostracization which they must overcome, but, in some instances, they must overlook the threat of being failed in a subject if they do not participate in the activity. In one of our schools in Cedar Rapids, a young Christian was threatened with failure in Physical Education if she did not participate in dancing. There is no doubt about it: Sometimes great pressures are brought upon young Christians to make them conform. I am sad to say it, but I'm afraid the teachers in our public schools do not have the high moral standard that they once used to have.

Another problem which faces our young Christians in their everyday walks of life is the apparent disregard on every hand for the elemental virture of "Plain honesty." The goal of 'everybody', keeping in mind our basic problem, "Everybody's doing it" is to get as much as possible for as little as possible. On the other hand, we find employers willing to misuse their employee by getting as much work out of him with a minimum of payment for that work. On the other hand, the employee is continually negotiating with his employer with the ultimate in mind of little work and big pay. A father cannot brag before his children that he falsified his income tax report to keep from paying his government more money, and at the same time, talk to his boy about the evils of cheating on a math test. Our young poeple need to believe sincerely that "Better is a little, with righteousness, than great revenues wtih injustice."

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Prov. 16:8.

Let us teach our young people to "be an example to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity." Let us, with the apostle Peter, say to them; that the world will think it strange that they do not run with them into the same excess of riot, and condition them to the facts that they will speak evil of them for not engaging in certain activities.

The devil asks for only the finger of our youth. But he will often take off their arm at the shoulder. All he asks is the finger; he keeps the consequences hidden from view. It is our responsibility in the home and from the pulpit and in our Bible classes to instill within our youth the principles of Christianity and they will, to a great degree, be able to solve their own problems.

"To every soul there is a high road
and a low,

The great soul climbs the high
road,

The small soul grasps the low,

And, in between, in the misty
flats,

The rest drift to and fro."

"Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them:
Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will no depart from it."

Proverbs 22:5-6.

New Congregation !

BY Howard Winters, Mountain City, Tennessee.

H. Ernest Shoaf did the preaching in a series of meetings in Tamarack, N. C. which resulted in 14 baptisms and 2 restorations. All 14 of the ones that were baptized were from Clifton, N. C. (which is located about 12 miles from Tamarack and 10 miles from West Jefferson) or a nearby community. This brought the total number of Christians that live in or near Clifton to 24. And at the close of the meeting in Tamarack these brethren decided that it would be better for them, and for the cause of Christ in general, to establish a congregation in Clifton. They rented an old store building in which to meet and announced a series of meetings, which began with great interest on Sunday night, June 14, with Bro. Shoaf doing the preaching. Bro. Alvin Barry, a fine young gospel preacher from Shady Valley, Tenn. has accepted an invitation to preach regularly for them.

The church in Tamarack has played an important role in making this new congregation a reality. In addition to the 14 baptized during the meeting they are giving 10 more of their most faithful members, and have helped in a considerable way financially. This leaves them in a critical condition both numerically and financially. Both groups need the prayers and encouragement of brethren every where.

". . . upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18



"OUR NEW HOME"

The Chester, S. C. congregation conducted the formal opening of its new building on Sunday afternoon, June 7, 1959. Mack W. Craig, preacher, Charlotte Avenue congregation and dean of David Lipscomb College, Nashville, Tenn. delivered the sermon to an overflow audience. The congregation met first in June, 1956 in one of the elementary schools and later in an old residence. The new building was so erected that an auditorium may be added as the congregation grow. It has four class rooms, a nursery, and an auditorium that seats 135. The original membership was ten and the present membership is 24. The work is sponsored by the Charlotte Ave. congregation, Nashville, Tenn. An active program of public and private teaching is engaged in each week. Dabney Phillips, local minister, began his third year with the Chester church in June.

"WHAT THEY ARE SAYING"

"You are doing a wonderful job with the "Carolina Messenger Of Truth."

"I appreciate the paper and the good work that goes into it very much!"

"God bless the "Messenger" that it may continue to do much good for the growth of the Lord's work."

'We enjoy the "Messenger" very much and pray for its continued success!!"

" I read the paper from front to back before I ever lay it down after the postman delivers it."

News

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C., 1201 Oakland Street
Roy S. Fudge, Evangelist.

On May 3, there was one restoration. The interest is very good. We have had three new families to move into our area since the first of the year. Our meeting begins July 19-26 with Bro. Kenneth Adams of Elkins, W. Virginia doing the preaching. We plan our Vacation Bible School for the week of July 19. Bro. and Sis. Neal Smith of West Asheville will help with this.

I have resigned the work here effective August 10. To date, no one has been selected to come here. My present plans are not complete, but I think I shall go back into secular work. The church here needs a man with years of experience in the mission fields. If you are interested you may contact the congregation here at the above address.

BURLINGTON, N. C., 511 Baldwin Rd.
Bruce R. Curd, Evangelist.

We are happy to report that another fine young married woman was added to the church on May 31 in obedience to the gospel. Another young couple indicated desire to worship with this local congregation.

Our Vacation Bible School begins June 15. Lord willing Bro. Curd will begin a meeting in Marion, N. C. on June 1. God Bless the 'Messenger".

WAYNESVILLE, N. C.
L. A. Atkinson, Evangelist.

Bro. Atkinson has been working with the congregation here since December, 1958. We are few in number but with the power of the gospel of Christ, we hope and pray we can grow.

KINSTON, N. C., Box 1083
Nelson M. Smith, Evangelist.

The church here has long dreamed of having its own building. That dream is being realized at last. Actual construction began on May 16th. Barring unforeseen delays we should be in our new building within the next six months. While the church is growing now we look for an accelerated rate of growth when we get in our new building. It will seat 208 without chairs and has facilities for 10 classrooms and a nursery or 'bawl room.' We are still in need of some financial assistance. Should some individual or congregation have some unused $$ lying around please send them to Kinston. We can put them to work!

ABERDEEN, N. C.
(Preacher urgently needed!)

The Aberdeen, N. C. congregation began in May, 1955 when 12 members, formerly attending Rockingham, N. C. began meeting for worship. After meeting for the first year in the American Legion building the small group was presented with a wonderful opportunity. The building formerly used by the First Baptists group was offered for sale at about 20% of actual value. With outside help the money was soon raised and a building seating 200 and containing a baptistry, two rest rooms, and eight large classrooms, was purchased for $5,000. During this period Charles Jennings was serving as preacher for the congregation

while also employed as business administrator for the hospital in nearby Pine Bluff. The work seemed off to a fine start as the congregation moved into their new building, however about this time military transfers began to take their toll of the membership and this coupled with the shutdown of a textile mill it wasn't long until the number had been reduced to three families. In September 1958, Bro. Jennings was also forced to move away. December found Bro. Fleet Cooper waiting in front of the building each Lord's day in event someone would come for worship. With Sis. Cooper a patien t in the hospital at McCain, five miles distant, Bro. Cooper was the only remaining active member of the Aberdeen congregation. In March of this year as the yearly payment on the building drew nigh, brethren of the surrounding areas began to realize the possibility of losing the building. Appeals were sent out and the money was raised and at the same time attention of the brotherhood was focused on the neglected possibilities in Aberdeen. At the invitation of Bro. Cooper and in cooperation with the brethren at Rockingham, N. C., Bro. Frank R. Milton of Albemarle began to plan a unique evangelistic campaign for Aberdeen. Invitations were sent to gospel preachers in the area to "come over and help us!"in Aberdeen during the week of May 18th. Sleeping accomodations in the form of cots and blankets were provided in one of the large upstairs class rooms in the building.

As the beginning date arrived preachers from all sections of the state converged on Aberdeen, prepared for a full week of labor in the Lord's vineyard. Those answering 'Milton's Macedonian' call were: Darrel Beard, Clemmons; Jack Byars, Kannapolis; Jim Davis, Valdese; Gary McDonald, Ashboro; Bill Respess, Fayetteville; Joe Riggs, Rockingham; and Noyles E. Sewell, Wilmington. The usual schedule each day consisted of breakfast at nearby State Hospital at McCain, followed by visiting in the hospital, morning devotion at 10 A. M., radio program at 11:15 A. M., door to door personal work each afternoon, filmstrip service at 7:00 P. M. and a regular preaching service at 8:00 P. M. During the week, the entire city of Aberdeen plus the community of Pine Bluff were completely canvassed. Peception by the townspeople was very cordial and interest in the church was manifest by the good number of visitors each evening. By the end of the week, a total of five had come forward in response to the invitation to request baptism into Christ Jesus. One had been immersed the Friday preceding the meeting as a result of preparatory personal work by Bro. Joe Riggs. The membership at Aberdeen stands now at eight in an area of some 12,000 population, a fine building is owned, and the town is friendly towards the church. The opportunity for growth is splendid provided a preacher can be secured for this work.

Congregations in the Carolinas are themselves mission points with but few exceptions. Help must be forthcoming from stronger congregations outside the two states. Many who will read this are members of congregations who are able to help in this work. Why not lay this matter before the leadership of your congregation? Preachers looking for a mission field to enter need look no further. This is a wonderful opportunity and the need is urgent. Will you do something about it? Contact Fleet Cooper, McCain, N. C.

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GREENVILLE, S. C., Augusta Rd.
Burl Curtis, Evangelist.

We have had two baptisms recently. One on May 31 and the other June 7. On May 24 we set a new attendance record for Bible study. We had 109 present which surpassed our old record of 101 set on October 12, 1958.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

We are still pressing on for the Master. Two have been restored during our meeting and three restored since then. Bro. Plunkett did a fine preaching job during our meeting. Our new well is finished and we hope to have a new cooler in the building soon. A tent meeting is planned for this month at Cannon, Spartanburg County. Bro. Parker will do the preaching. Our meeting in August will be held by Bro. Thomas Burton, Spencer, Tenn. We enjoy the "Messenger" very much.

CAMDEN, S. C., King at Lyttleton St.
C. C. Vaughan, Evangelist

Our work here is still on the move endeavoring to do more for the Lord in trying to save souls. We have just had our highest contributions in the history of the church here in the amount of $221.11 for the month of May. The attendance for May was 280. Our hearts were made sad June 8, 1959 upon the passing of one of our very faithful and beloved sisters, Hattie Anderson. Sister Anderson was one of the first members in the Camden area. We will miss her very much and wish to extend our sympathy to the family. Whether morning or night, when in Camden on Sunday, stop by and worship with us. Our meeting house is on the corner of King and Lyttleton Streets.

DUNCAN, S. C., Route 1
Milton S. Parker, Evangelist

In recent weeks there has been one confession of sins here. Interest is better than at any time since I began work here last summer. I have accepted an invitation of the Elders to continue my work with the Church here. We had a very good vacation Bible school last week with an average attendance of 59.

CHESTER, S. C., 135 Saluda St.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

Statistic wise the Chester congregation was a bit higher than in April. The midweek service averaged 24 which was a record. In May we began an interesting cottage meeting with several adult nonmembers in attendance. June 7, Mack Craig, Nashville, Tenn. spoke to an over flow crowd at the formal opening of our new church building.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C., N. Main St.
W. G. Gantt, Evangelist

May was a wonderful month for the congregation here. Four persons were baptized and four restored. At the morning worship service on May 24, Bro. Willard Collins, David Lipscomb College, spoke on 'Christian Education.' Many seniors from the local high school and many persons from other churches were present and much good was accomplished. Bro. Collins also spoke at the local school's baccalaureate service.

WILMINGTON, N. C., 215 S. 17th St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist.

There is very little to report from here at this time. Bro. Sewell took part in the Aberdeen meeting in May and thus far in

(Page Seventeen)

June has been with the church in Boone, N. C. in a wonderful meeting. He will leave again Monday for another meeting in Perry, Fla. The first of June he will have part in the Cherokee mission meeting. Our Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the last week of July and we expect to have our bus in operation by that time.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

"The church in Wilmington, N. C. wishes to warn all congregations agai nst giving financial aid to Ed Logan, who claims to preach for a church at Sandifen, West Virginia. He has received help from the Wilmington congregation, from the Burlington congregation, and perhaps other places. For further information contact Bruce Curd, Burlington, N. C. or Noyles E. Sewell of the Wilmington church."

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Gerald Wear, Evangelist

Services are held each Sunday at 2:30 P. M. in the Whiteville Recreation Center. Attendance averages around 30. Bro. Wear works as announcer at the radio station in Elizabethtown, and will be returning to school at David Lipscomb College in September. The greatest need in Whiteville is a located preacher.

BOONE, N. C., Old Bristol Rd.
James L. Frazier, Evangelist

The church here is on the move. We have had two meetings this spring. Bro. Gray Flippen, Barnesville, Georgia was guest speaker in a meeting in April, in which one was baptized. Bro. Noyles E. Sewell of Wilmington, N. C. was with us for one week in June. This meeting was well attended, with as many as 54 being present for one service. The preaching was unusually good. During this series, three were restored. New interest has recently developed here, for which we are very happy. We had a total attendance last Lord's day of 82, with a contribution of $122.18. We have had an increase of 16 to our number here since February 23rd of this year, and an over-all increase in attendance of approximately 270%. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 17th through 23rd with Bro. Virgil E. Richie of Rockmart, Georgia as guest speaker. For the first time the church is now distributing a bulletin. Compliments are being heard regarding the radio broadcasts. The church here receives outside support, which is necessary at the present time. Bro. James L. Frazier, the evangelist here lives in a rented house. We, the church in Boone, N. C. solicit your prayers in our behalf.

FLORENCE, S. C., 618 Gregg St.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist.

Things are moving well here. In the past few weeks, eight have placed their membership here. One lady was baptized recently, uniting her family in Christ. Attendance and giving figures are also high; on June 7th we had 78 present for worship and our contribution on that day was $145.

VALDESE, N. C., P. O. Box 72
James A. Davis, Evangelist.

We have just begun a Dial-A-Devotion service here with good response from the townspeople. Many favorable comments are being heard about it. This is a wonderful way to advertize the Church. On Monday nights we are conducting a Bible class in a home in Morganton, and on Tuesday and Friday nights we are having classes in homes in Valdese and Drexel.

The Sunday afternoon and Thursday night services in Lenoir are being well attended.

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2 Marble Street
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

The second week in June was Vacation Bible school week here; we believe we had one of the best we have ever had. The daily average in attendance was 112. The interest shown by everyone was especially encouraging. Since our last report five have answered the invitation of Christ. Three have confessed wrong and two have been baptized. We are grateful to the Lord for his blessings upon us and others.

STATESVILLE, N. C., P.O. Box 1532
Quincy Carter, Evangelist.

We are grateful to our heavenly master to see the church here still progressing. We assemble at 9:45 A.M. each Lord's day morning for Bible study with the average attendance of 25 to 30. At the 11 A.M. worship on June 7 our attendance was 140 with the contribution $70.00. We have set apart the first and third Sundays for a contribution on the new church building. The last such contribution was $64.85. For all our blessings we give thanks to God. Pray for the work here.

GREENVILLE, S. C., N. Buncombe Rd.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist.

We have had two restorations since our last report. Bro. Smith was in a meeting in Texas May 31 - June 7. Two persons were baptized and three restored. Average attendance for ten services was 76 and with 11 congregations represented.

MARION, N. C., State at Ann Streets
M. F. Norwood, Evangelist

Bro. Norwood moved to Marion on June 6 from Alabama to assist Bro. Curd, Burlington, N. C. in conducting a meeting at the congregation here. There was one baptism and one restoration. We had 42 present for Bible study on June 7; 45 for worship and 48 for the evening service. Among those present for the evening service was 6 visitors from Dysartsville, N. C.

There are four Christians in the family of Bro. Norwood and this brings the total membership here to 27. Bro. Norwood looks forward to a pleasant work with the group here. The congregations budget is set at $40.00 per week with Bro. Norwood's support coming from outside.

DURHAM, N. C., 1323 Watts St.
Harold Scott, Evangelist

We have had very good attendance during the month of May. The best in fact since March, 1958. Bible study attendance averaged 57 with 76 for worship. One was baptized during this month.

SENECA, S. C.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

The church in Seneca is suffering from "summer slump," due to the absence of the majority of the regular members for the summer holidays. Our meeting, with Bill Stewart, Decatur, Texas, was the best in the history of the congregation, with four baptized, two restored. One has been baptized since the meeting. During the month of May, however, the averages for attendance and contribution were at an all time high. Pray for the success of the work here.

TRYON, N. C. P. O. Box 1055
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

Interest seems to be increasing here. There has been an increase in the number of visitors present for services in recent weeks. One was baptized during the month. A ten-day vacation Bible school is a high point in the work here each year. It is scheduled for July 27th through August 7th.

GEORGETOWN, S. C., Kensington Com.
Johnny C. Sewell, Evangelist.

Since our last report in the May issue, six have been baptized, three in June, two in May and one in April. This brings our total membership to 44. Pray for a continued harvest of souls.

The average attendance for the past 6 weeks is 64 as compared with 42 for the same period last year. The contributions have averaged $67.22 per Sunday for the past six weeks as compared with the same period last year.

We are looking forward to the week of July 26th when our meeting and vacation Bible school will be conducted. V. B. S. will be held each morning from 8-11 with preaching each evening at 7:30 with Bro. Glenn Killom speaking.

A new record high prayer meeting attendance was set on May 17 with 48 present. The construction of new classrooms and a baptistry plus the remodeling of the present building is moving along well with the members contributing quite a lot on the labor. We are all looking forward with great anticipation to completion of this building project.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
No preacher

Bro. Bob Sorrell will hold a meeting here on July 5-12. We will also sponsor a tent meeting in Barnardsville, N. C. July 12-18 with Bro. Elmer Smith speaking. We do not have a regular evangelist at present but Bros. Carl Hyder and Eddie Kerr are doing a fine job of preaching for us.

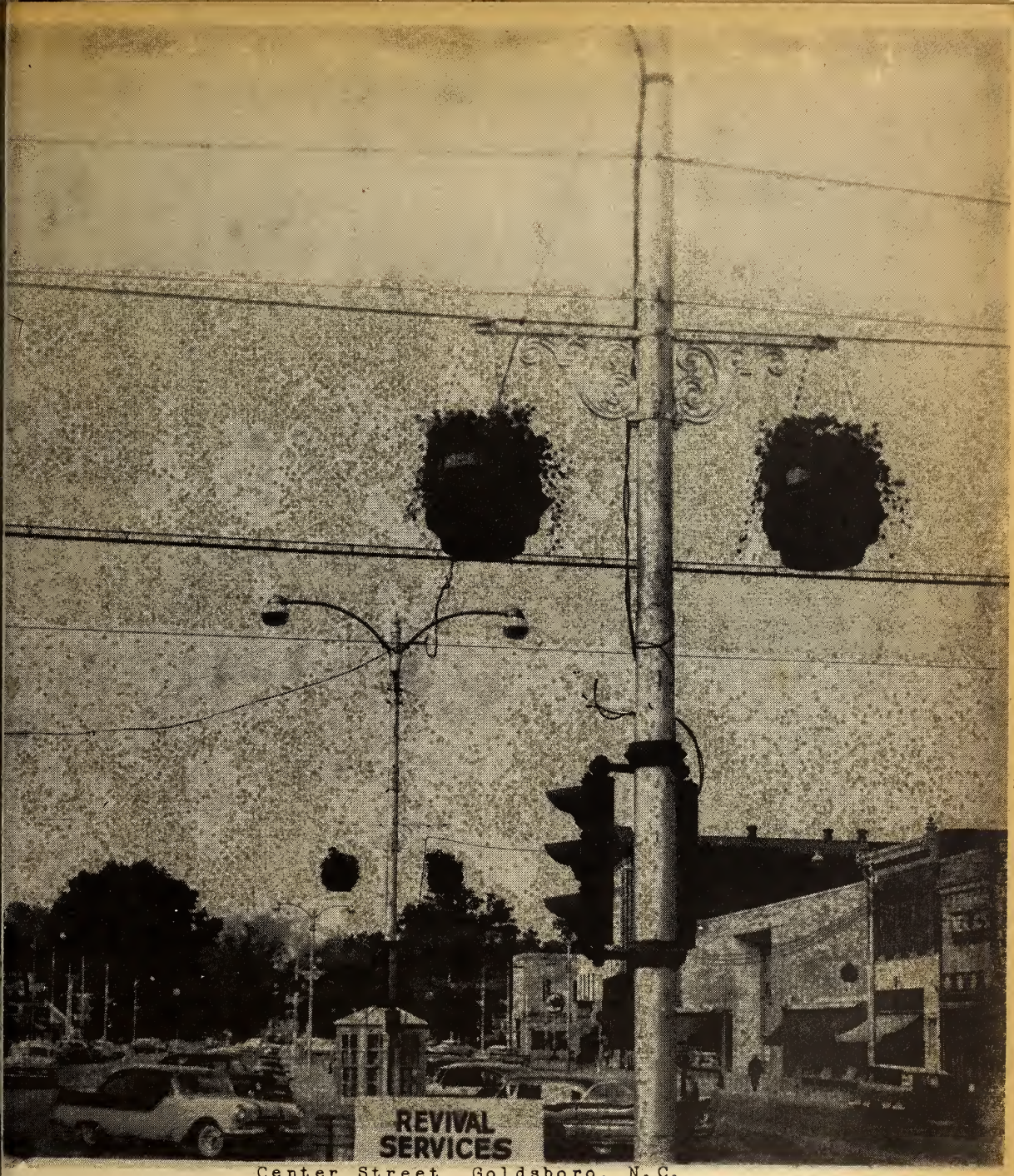
GOSPEL MEETINGS

ALEXANDER, N. C. (Red Oak) July 5-12 are the dates for a gospel meeting to be held with Bro. Bob Sorrell doing the speaking.

BARNARDSVILLE, N. C. (TENT) Sponsored by the Red Oak congregation in Alexander, N. C. on July 12-18 with Bro. Elmer Smith, Science Hill, Tenn. speaking each evening.

GEORGETOWN, S. C. Bro. Glen Killom, Jacksonville, Florida will do the speaking in a gospel meeting here each evening July 26-August 6.

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C. July 19-26 is the date for the meeting here, with Bro. Kenneth Adams, Elkins, West Virginia, as speaker.



Center Street, Goldsboro, N.C.

Carolina Messenger Of Truth

AUGUST, 1959

CONTEST WINNERS



Miss Jean Ervin
Greenville, S. C.



Mr. Joey Potter
Piedmont, S. C.

The "Carolina Messenger of Truth" congratulates Miss Jean Ervin and Mr. Joey Potter for winning the subscription contest and are very happy to award to them one week at the Carolina Bible Camp.

Jean Ervin, 18C Woodland Homes, Greenville, S. C. is 15 years old and is a student at Greenville, Junior High. She will be in the ninth grade this fall. She is a member of the Judson church of Christ where she attends faithfully with her mother. She plans to attend the Carolina Bible Camp the second week.

Joey Potter, Rt. 1, Piedmont, S. C. is 10 years old and will be in the fifth grade this fall at Concrete School. He attends services regularly with his mother at Buncombe Road congregation in Greenville, S. C. Both Joey and Jean will be looking forward to spending one week with the boys and girls at camp.

YOU COULD HAVE WON !!

Since we may want to use this contest again next year, we release the following information. The winning girl had 21 subscriptions and the winning boy had only 3. If you had sent in 4 subscriptions you could have gone to camp free. Maybe next year you won't say, "I wouldn't win anyway".

"The saddest words of tongue or
pen are these,
It might have been."

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia, S. C.	7:30 P. M.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C.	2:30 P. M.
WBTW, Chl. 8, Florence	11:30 A. M.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 P. M.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington, N. C.	-noon
WJMX	2:30 P. M.
WKIX	2:30 P. M.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 P. M.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 A. M.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 P. M.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 P. M.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 P. M.
WHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WRRZ, Clinton, N. C.	2:30 P. M.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham, N. C.	9:15 A. M.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 A. M.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380	9:15 A. M.
WHIP, Mooresville, N. C.	4:30 P. M.
WACA, 1590	8:40 A. M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.	8:45 A. M.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 A. M.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.	8:45 A. M.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.	9:30 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	10:00 A. M.
WGBR, Goldsboro, N. C.	8:30 A. M.

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.	11:45 A. M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.

WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING IF THE RADIO AND TELEVISION LISTINGS HEREIN ARE CORRECT OR COMPLETE UNLESS YOU LET US HEAR FROM YOU REGARDING THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE PROGRAMS BROADCAST IN YOUR AREA!

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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(Page Three)

Christians Belong To Christ



By C. W. Bradley, South Fork, Winston, Salem, N. C.

Often we have thought of Christ as our Saviour, our Friend, our Example, our High Priest, our Teacher and our Shephard. Truly he is all of these. But have we been impressed with the fact that Christ is our Owner?

Christians belong to Christ. The Bible plainly declares this. "Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's." Romans 14:8. "And ye are Christ's and Christ is God's." I Corinthians 3: 23. "And if ye are Christ's then are thy Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise." Gal. 3:29. Christ said "Upon this rock I will build my church." Matt. 16:18. The church belongs to Christ. We are His.

Christians belong to Christ because he purchased us. "Ye are not your own; for ye were bought with a price." I Cor. 6: 19-20. What was that price? "The church of the Lord which he purchased with his own blood." Acts 20: 28. "Worthy are thou to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and didst purchase unto God with thy blood men of every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation." Rev. 5:9. "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for it." Ephesians 5:25.

Throughout the New Testament Christians are said to be servants of Christ. This word 'servant' literally means "bondservant" or "slave". It expresses ownership. Christ owns us. But there is a big difference between the idea of our being slaves of Christ and the general conception of slavery. In the days of slavery, many were slaves against their will; they would have gladly become free if they could. But Christians deliberately chose to give themselves to Christ. We do not desire to be free from him. We want to serve him. We love him so much we want to be his forever. We cannot live without him. But Christ did not force us to serve him. He never will. He invites us to serve him. He promises to be a good master and to richly reward us, but the decision is left to us. Paul expressed this idea of our freely giving ourselves to Christ in Romans 6:16, "Ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."

Since we belong to Christ, all that we have is his. Our hearts belong to him. "But sanctify in your hearts Christ as

Lord." I Peter 3:15. We must let Christ live and rule in our hearts because we belong to him. We must bring "every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." II Cor. 10:5.

Our bodies belong to Christ. "And ye are not your own; for ye were bought with a price; glorify God therefore in your body." I Cor. 6:19&20. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God." Rom. 12:1. "But the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord." I Cor. 6:13. Christians must not defile their bodies for we belong to Christ.

Our influence belongs to Christ. "Ye are an epistle of Christ." II Cor. 3:3. "Ye are the light of the world . . . . Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matt. 5:14, 16. What a wonderful and powerful thing is the Christian's influence! Let us use it for Christ who owns us.

Our time belongs to Christ. "Look, therefore, carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Eph. 5:15-16. Christians are commanded to assemble on the Lord's Day, the first day of the week, to worship God. This is a wonderful privilege and the true Christian finds much joy in worshiping his God. But since we belong to Christ, in one sense, every day is the Lord's day. Every moment of every day offers the Christian an opportunity to serve his Master. Have we learned this lesson? Many have not. Just think of all the time that is absolutely wasted. Christians, we must not spend our days on this earth in idleness; we must be busy, for we belong to Christ.

Our money and our possessions belong to Christ. How much did we bring with us into this world? How much will we carry with us when we depart? "For we brought nothing into the world, for neither can we carry anything out." I Tim. 6:7. "For the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof." I Cor. 10:26. How we need to learn this lesson! Certainly the Lord teaches us to give liberally and joyfully into the church treasury; upon the first day of the week. But where did so many get the idea that they can use the remainder of their income in a wasteful and selfish manner? Don't you ever forget that all that you have belongs to Christ and he expects you to use it wisely and for his glory. Just think what could be done today in spreading the gospel of Christ to the nations that are in darkness if all Christians were willing to use what they possess in serving the Lord. A failure to learn this lesson will cause us to be lost. How can we say that what we possess is really ours? We belong to Christ. Let's live for him.

Our abilities belong to Christ. "For who maketh thee to differ? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? but if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory as if thou hadst not received it?" I Cor. 3:7. No one has any grounds for boasting of his abilities. No one has the right to bury his talent. Whatever our abilities are, let us thank God for enabling us to have them, and let us devote them to our Lord. We belong to him. "Stir up the gift of God which is in thee." II Tim. 1:6. Too many in the Lord's church have buried their talents. Just think what could be done today by the Lord's people if all would completely dedicate their all to the Lord. Go, my brother, and dig up that

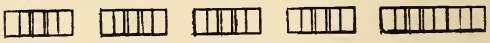
talent and begin using it for Christ, for we belong to Him.

Our homes belong to Christ. Many Christians have been guilty of complaining because they think they cannot find anything to do for the Lord. If we could only open our eyes to all the opportunities for serving the Lord! Just think of the opportunities before us in teaching our friends and neighbors by inviting them into our homes for a good meal and then a period of wholesome conversation. Very likely before the evening is over the door will be opened to discuss the Bible. Parents, if you are having problems with your teenage children, has it occurred to you that you may not have used your home for opportunities of teaching and training them? Have you made your home a place where your children like to be? Do you invite other young people to come to your home? Have you ever seen a plaque on the wall with the statement, "Christ is the silent guest in this home"? Christ is too silent in many homes. We need to let Him speak.

All that we do is to be done to the glory of the Lord. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." I Cor. 10:31.

Since we belong to Christ, we can be assured that he will care for us. "Casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you." I Peter 5:7. "In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus." Phill. 4:6-7. "I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me." Phill. 4:13. "I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed unto him against that day." II Tim. 1:12. What have we committed unto Christ? Our hearts, our lives, our all. Let us rejoice that he is able to guard that which we have committed unto him. As long as we commit our lives unto him, we can be comforted and assured by these words, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or anguish, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?. . . . Nay, in all these things, we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 8:35, 37-39.

How wonderful to belong to Christ. Let us never be ashamed to say that we belong to him. Let us ever be ready to show that we belong to him. Christians belong to Christ.



WHAT THEY ARE SAYING. . . . . .

"We were disappointed that no mention has been made of this work before." (The work in Una, near Spartanburg)

(We are disappointed, too, but now you know how to get a "mention". Write the report and send it to the news editor, B. Edward Davis-------EDITOR)

"I think it is a fine paper and it brings to the home so many good messages from Christian writers most of whom we know."

"I feel confident that much and lasting good will come from this publication."

OUR NEEDS.....

THE CHURCH IN NORTH CAROLINA'S NORTHERN COASTAL PLAINS!!!!!

BY
Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.*

Twenty-five percent of the state's counties, twenty percent of its people and ten percent of its New Testament churches. This, roughly, is the story of the church in the north half of the coastal plains section of North Carolina. This report embraces 27 counties, 800,000 people and only nine churches. Without question, Eastern Carolina, though restoration efforts in it have been well received, is the most neglected area in "The Old North State."

The oldest congregation in this section is Newport, established in 1920 by Bob and Ben Jones who, with their wives, had only recently obeyed the gospel while in Florida. The youngest church is Oriental, established in 1959 by Tom Roberts and several members from Newport. Newport is the largest church reported on here with 125 members and an attendance averaging 150. It and Pike Road, which was established in 1937, are the only fully self-supporting churches in the section.

New Bern recently completed a building and it and the one at Pike Road are paid for. Newport's building will be paid for within a year. Three churches, Kinston, Rocky Mount and Goldsboro, now have buildings under construction, each of which will seat about 250 persons. Lack of buildings seriously hindered the growth of most of these churches.

*works with congregation in Goldsboro, N. C.

Rocky Mount meets in a lodge hall; Goldsboro in the American Legion; Kinston in the Youth Center. A meeting place is a must.

A congregation recently established at Cherry Point by Ronald McRay of New Bern meets in government housing abroad the base. At least three churches, Kinston, Newport, and Goldsboro, have weekly radio programs.

Six full-time evangelists work in the area. They are Nelson Smith; Kinston; Tom Roberts, Newport; Ronald McRay, New Bern (leaving August 1); William Wilder, Rocky Mount; C. T. Kidwell, Pike Road; Ray Fullerton, Jr., Goldsboro.

This is historic land. Some of the most significant and bloodiest battles of the Revoluntionary and Civil Wars were fought here. The Wright Brothers made the first airplane flight at Kitty Hawk, on the coast. Virginia Dare, the first white child to be born in the "New world" was born here. Some of the nation's largest and most strategic defense bases are located in the Coastal Plains. It is a rich, agricultural section whose people are solid citizens, religious by nature. Sportsmen congregate along its Atlantic coast for some of the nation's finest salt water fishing.

About ten years ago some 70 Christian churches (Disciples of Christ) in this area, under the leadership of one man, withdrew themselves from that denomination in protest against the domination of the U. C. M. S. They are now known as "Churches of Christ", and are

scattered throughout the Coastal Plains. The only difference discovered between them and the true church is their use of the instrument of music. The Christian church in Eastern Carolina is permeated with liberalism and its Atlantic Christian College ("ACC") in Wilson is the seedbed for the pernicious doctrines of modernism. Discontent among these people as well as among other denominational groups is not unusual. But manpower, money, equipment and facilities are needed to meet these challenges. To give the reader an idea of the untouched potential (and responsibility) in this section, there are 19 counties with more than 100,000 population. Nine counties without churches in them have more than 15,000 population each. Four counties in this area have more than 50,000 population each but no church of Christ. And two counties with more than 60,000 population have no church of Christ in them!

"The kingdom is spreading," but, unfortunately for the lost and for the saved it is spreading all too thinly and all too slowly.

Aged Gospel Preacher "Needs" Your Help

by BURL CURTIS

Bro. Guy W. Nicholas, Anderson, S. C., whom I judge to be about 60 years old, is in need of financial help. The second week of July he was in the Greenville General Hospital for treatment of what the doctor called "nervous exhaustion due to an accumulation of worries over a period of months, dating back to an auto wreck in 1957." The doctor also said that his worries over financial problems had been a big factor in causing his nervous disorder. In addition to the loss of the car in the wreck, Bro. and Sis. Nicholas were both seriously hurt with broken bones and you know how doctor and hospital bills can pile up at a time like that. Now he has the expense of treatment for a nervous breakdown.

Bro. Nicholas, who preaches for the small church of Christ in Anderson, works for an inadequate salary and out of that must pay his own house rent plus all the other expenses that goes with preaching the gospel.

I hope all of you who read this will determine to help these aging Christians. Young preachers, remember, if you live, you too will some day be old. It is very possible that you will stand in need before you die. You can help this man. The members of the Augusta Rd. congregation where I preach have already decided to help what they can. Make check payable to Mrs. G. W. Nicholas and send your contribution to her at 107 Maxwell Ave., Anderson, S. C. Bro. and Sis. Nicholas are the parents of Sis. Harold Scott, Durham, N. C.

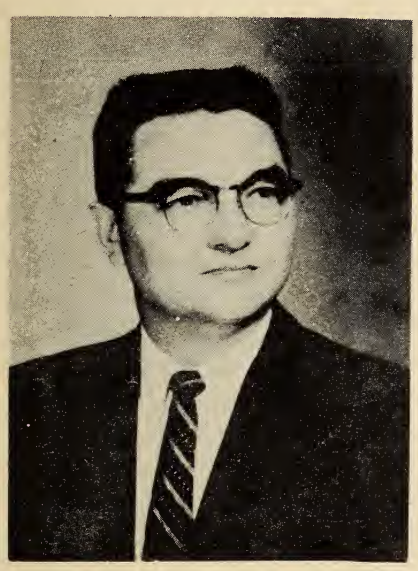
NOTICE!!!!!!! July 23, 1959

Word was received early this morning that Bro. Nicholas died in an Anderson hospital about 5:00 P.M. last evening. I along with other members of the staff of this paper wish to extend our sympathies to Sis. Nicholas and family.

Your contributions, NOW, more than ever are needed. Sis. Nicholas now has the added expense of funeral arrangements and etc. Won't you remember this one in your prayers and in your budget?

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

DOERS OF THE WORD



by T. A. Issacs, Plaza congregation, Charlotte, N. C.

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1: 22-25.

The fruit of the Christian life is "doing." Jesus on one occasion as he taught His disciples concerning the true vine and the branches said, "herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." John 15: 8. For God to be glorified the Christian must be constantly bearing fruit. The real test in the life of a Christian is what I like to call the fruit test; are we producing good fruit? If we are not producing good fruit then there is something wrong with the tree or the branch. If, at this season of the year, one were to walk through the beautiful peach orchards of the Carolinas and notice a tree that had no fruit on it, one would immediately know that there was something wrong with the tree. So it is with the Christians life, if we are not bearing fruit for the Master, something is wrong with that life. Here is a point that every Christian should keep constantly before him, people can see if we are bearing fruit for the Lord. As our friends and neighbors look at our lives do they see individuals in the kingdom of God that are bearing fruit by their good works or do they see barren lives devoid of good works?

Very many hearers of the gospel are not sufficiently on guard against the dreadful danger of being "hearers only." Some when the worship services and Bible study are over, seldom think of anything but going home, eating, watching TV, etc. Many never think about applying the lesson they have heard to their own lives or endeavoring to put into practice the precious truths they have learned from the Word of God. Others pass out of the building and express to the preacher their pleasure at having listened to the discourse of the hour. The purpose of preaching IS NOT that people may be pleased at having listened, but the purpose of preaching is that we may be profited, edified and inspired to live an upright, generous, godly, Christian life. Many in the church have failed to grasp the purpose of preaching and as a result they

get their feelings hurt at preaching which seeks to cause them to live a godly life. Others because of the same failure want to be "sermonetted" all the time with 'ear tickling' sermons that sugar coat and dilute the blessed gospel of the Son of God. I fear that this has been done far too often in our generation. The mission of the pulpit is to promote the doing of the Word of God in the everyday lives of men and women and the preacher or the teacher who does not seek to carry out this mission is not pleasing in the sight of God. The highest praise that can be bestowed on a preacher of the gospel is not to tell him how much his preaching is enjoyed, but to let him see his preaching being translated into everyday christian living. Let us never forget that the "hearer only" is on the road to final spiritual ruin. As James says, he is "deceiving: himself. Show me an individual that hears only and I will show you a self-deceived individual. He thinks he is doing the will of God and that he is pleasing in His sight. He usually is boastful about all that he has accomplished for the Lord in days gone by. He will vehemently tell you about his family tree and how they were all members of the church of Christ. But his life is empty of good works.

Notice the comparison that James makes between the man who is a hearer only and the man who is a doer of the word. The hearer only "beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was". He 'beholds', 'goeth' and 'forgets'. Isn't this an apt description of many in the church today. They 'come' and 'go' and never put into practice what they have learned. On the other hand the doer of the word "looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, (and) he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work this man shall be blessed in his deed." The doer 'looketh,' continueth' and is a 'doer' of the work. He looks into "the perfect law of liberty", the Word of God, and continues therein and the end result of such an attitude is that he becomes a doer of the work. This comparison was given by James to enforce the injunction he had just issed, "But, be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only."

In this passage of scripture the Scriptures are portrayed as a mirror. What a beautiful picture of the Scriptures because they are a mirror. They show a man what he is. If a man walks up to a physical mirror he will see an exact likeness of his physical make up. Just so if one 'looketh' into the "perfect law of liberty" he will see himself as he really is. The Scriptures also show a man what he should be. If a person has a blemish on his face, he will go to a physical mirror to try and correct the flaw. In the same way one can go to the "perfect law of liberty" and see what he should be spiritually and can make the necessary corrections. Here is the reason that we as Christians must look continually into the Bible. The Psalmist said, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; AND IN HIS LAW DOTH HE MEDITATE DAY AND NIGHT." Psalms 1:1-2. God give us more Christians who will meditate day and night on His law and put it to practice in their every day lives.

This passage of scripture we are studying with you reveals to us the great truth that truth must not only be received into the heart but it must be expressed in the life. We can hear the truth preached from now until time shall

be no more but it will never avail us anything unless we put it to practice in our daily walks of life. In other words, James is saying that we must practice what we preach. How we need to heed this exhortation of James especially in our day and age. Too long have we pleaded with people for a restoration of New Testament Christianity and our plea has been an hypocritical one. We claim to have restored New Testament living. Too long have we been preaching one thing and living another. If we will but practice what we preach; if we will become doers of the word and not hearers only we will see a great difference in the church in many localities. Jesus said, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21. John wrote, "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." I John 2:17. And again, "He that doeth righteousness is righteous." I John 3:7. In the final book of God's Revelation to man, this same beloved apostle wrote, "blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14. Brethren, we apply these scriptures to the person who has never obeyed the first principles, but let us apply them also to our own lives.

As we bring this article to a close, I would like to suggest to you two reasons why it is that there are so many hearers and so few doers in the church today. First of all a failure to carry out the third part of the great commission is one outstanding reason for people not being doers of the word. Jesus said not only to go, teach and baptize but he also said "Teach them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." We have failed miserably to do this. Preachers are partially to blame. There are those among us who are more interested in writing to one of "our" papers and informing the brotherhood of how many were baptized in our last meeting or in the last few weeks than they are in "teaching them to observe all things the Lord commanded." It is good to baptize people into Christ. This we must do, but let us not leave them without chart or compass on a storm tossed sea to be drowned by the waves of worldly cares that surround them. A second reason for so many hearers and so few doers is a lack of faith on the part of Christian men and women. Concerning the children of Israel the writer of Hebrews said, "For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, NOT BEING MIXED WITH FAITH IN THEM THAT HEARD IT." Heb. 4:2. The word preached to the children of Israel did not profit them because it was not mixed with faith. The same is true today: unless the word we hear is mixed with faith it will profit us nothing. Why is it that Christians will not "assemble with the saints"? A lack of faith. Why is it they will not give as they have been prospered? A lack of faith. Why do they neglect to teach others the beautiful story of love? A lack of faith. When ever we fail to do anything the Lord has required of us as His children it is an indication that we do not have the faith in the promises and condemnations of the Lord that we should. "So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief." Heb. 3:19. This was said of the children of Israel and their failure to enter the promised land. Will the same be said of us; will we fail to enter heaven, "the promised land", because of our unbelief?

"But be ye doers of the word, and not

hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgeteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

New Congregation !

BETHUNE, S. C.

(As reported by Bro. Sewell Hall who preaches for the McRae Road congregation, Camden, South Carolina.)

During June, a new congregation was established in Bethune, South Carolina. It was a result of a tent meeting which continued over a period of thirty days. The meeting was conducted by the Camden church. At the beginning of the meeting there were eight members of the church living in Bethune. They were driving to Camden for worship. During the meeting, four were added to the church. One other was baptized who does not live in Bethune. One was baptized the second week, one the third, one the fourth, and two the fifth. We believe this to be evidence of the wisdom of long meetings when interest will permit.

No count was made the first Sunday the church met. The past three Sundays, attendance has averaged 41, almost all of them from Bethune. 30 have been attending the mid-week class.

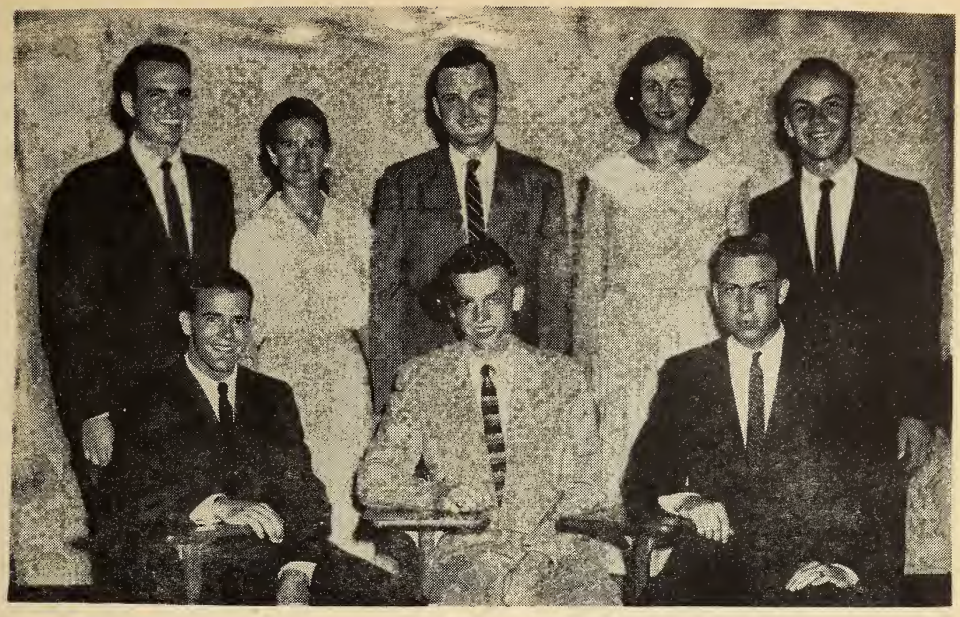
At present the church is meeting on Sunday afternoons in the shop of one of the members, Bro. Hunter, one mile south of Bethune on Highway # 1. On their own initiative, the brethren there selected and purchased a one acre lot across the road from Bro. Hunter. It is being paid for as rapidly as possible by the Bethune brethren. As soon as possible, they plan to erect a modest building.

Most of the credit that can be rightly claimed by human beings for the accomplishments in Bethune is due the brethren who live there. Their zeal in bringing visitors and in personal evangelism is exemplary. Though men of modest means, they have chosen to shoulder their own responsibility for providing a place of worship without asking anyone for help. While receiving counsel and advice with gratitude, they have taken the initiative in planning their own work from the very beginning. 3 of the men are making talks and all are helping in every way possible. At present most of the public preaching is being done by the preacher from Camden.

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1960 CAROLINA LECTURES

The elders of the South Main Street congregation, Winston-Salem, N. C., met in a business session to consider the dates of the 1960 Carolina Lectures. It was their judgment that May 9-13 would be most suitable. If there are objections to these dates, please let us know!! In order to make these the best lectures ever held, we are asking for any constructive suggestions that any one might have. We are beginning work on the arrangements and details within the next six weeks. Forms will be distributed by the first of October to the preachers in the Carolinas. Contact Bro. J. D. Parker, 857 Watson Avenue, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.



"CAROLINA CLUB"

David Lipscomb College, Nashville, Tennessee, has an active "Carolina Club" composed of students from both North and South Carolina. Organized in 1957, the club has the dual purpose of encouraging Carolinians to attend Lipscomb and of providing a fellowship program for students from the Carolinas at Lipscomb. Members during the 1958-59 session include: South Carolina - Janie Gregory, Kingstree; North Carolina - Donald Danner and Tony Forrest, Mocksville; Leatha Patton, Morganton; Frank Atkins, Asheboro; Valeria Strayhorn, Salisbury; Joe Buchanan, Cullowhee; Wallace Beasley and Dick Pridgen, Charlotte; and Wilson Burton, Kannapolis.

During the past two years the club has written high school seniors in the Church throughout the Carolinas to encourage young people to receive a Christian education at Lipscomb. The Carolina students have enjoyed many periods of fellowship together. The club encourages youth throughout the two states to consider Lipscomb for future education.

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"WHAT THEY ARE SAYING"

"We are very happy that such a magazine is being published in the Carolinas. We feel that this 'Messenger' will be a great encouragement to the work of the church."

"I CONTINUE TO ENJOY THE "Carolina Messenger of Truth".

"Magazine looking good!"

TEEN TOPICS



by JAMES S. WOODROOF,
West Columbia, S. C.

"PROBLEMS FACING YOUNG CHRISTIANS"

(Second and final installment of an article written by Dan. H. Woodroof, a guest writer.)

Every age has its peculiar temptations. The aged normally seek comforts and ease. The aged are tempted to lose their daring, their courage, or to be overcautious. The middle life normally undergoes the temptation to think too much of and to care too much for the world and the possessions it offers. It is in this period of our life that we are tempted to become covetous, to fulfill personal ambitions regardless of others and to look only to ourselves, instead of to others.

But youth, also, has its peculiar temptations. These are, often, very destructive in nature. There is a great deal of sorrow, a great deal of shame, and much fear regarding the temptations to which they are subject, and to which many have succumbed. Youth is desperately seeking freedom. It is frantically seeking mental, physical, and spiritual liberty, and it is important because most people are not free. They are in bondage especially to the flesh. About 95% of all pictures you see on magazine racks are of unclothed, or partially clothed women. Why do the majority of so-called jokes have a sexual connection of some kind? Why are most picture shows loaded toward the flesh? Why do most modern novels, even those that are regarded as being on the best-seller list, contain such vivid descriptions of sexual relationships? America is not the first nation that has walked this path. So did Babylon, Egypt, Greece, and Rome; and they all fell because of it. America is no exception.

One of the greatest problems our young Christians have to face is the temptations that appeal to the staisfying of the flesh. It is the more tragic because at the particular stage of development in young bodies, they do not know why the appeal is so great. Many young people believe that liberty is to be found in giving free rein to every desire and appetite they have. Indeed, many twisted moralists, their minds warped say that suppression is unnatural, that if a person does not satisfy these sexual desires, he will have some kind of a psychological or physical breakdown. This is not true. It is not substantiated by medical doctors. Freedom is not to be found in license, but in the very opposite, in rigid control and strict direction of the body. The Bible tells us

that we must train our faculties to be able to discern evil from good. We hear this from young people on every hand, and those of us who have teen-age children, hear it even more often: "I do not see any harm in this or that." The reason is, it isn't in young people to know many things. Youth has not passed over this trail before. Young people walk like blind men in the darkness, and many have been hurt in the darkness. There is no need for them to walk in the darkness for God has told us where to walk, God tells us what to do with the body and the mind; and if we will just trust him, we'll be free. Young people can not borrow the ideas of the crooked, twisted, moralists and be free.

The minute you tell many young people that they cannot engage in mixed swimming or dancing, they throw up their hands and say, "Well! You're going to take us away from everything! We can't do anything. Why, everybody does it!" Where the idea comes from that mixed swimming parties and dancing parties are everything, and that when these are taken away nothing, absolutely nothing remains, I am not able to determine - I know it has its origin with the devil. But if everybody does it, I'm not too interested in something that everybody does, in this respect, for if everybody does it, it's wrong. Christians are different people from everybody else. They are not average people. Jesus, seeing the usual activities of the society of that day, said to his disciples, "Be not ye therefore like unto them." This was further emphasized when he said, "What do ye more than others?"

Jesus takes no unusual notice of ORDINARY conduct, but he often took special notice of EXCEPTIONAL qualities of character and activities. In Luke 17, we find he cured ten lepers, but only one came back and gratefully fell at his feet, praising and glorifying God. He was different from the nine. In Luke chapter 10, we have the familiar story of the good Samaritan. He was not like the others, the priest and the Levite, who passed by on the other side. He did the more difficult right rather than the easier wrong. Who does not know of Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego? They were non-conformists, who by faith in God - that they might be right - dared to be different from those round about. They would not bend, budge, nor burn.

"Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and I will receive you."

The desire to be popular and to be accepted by their associates, causes many young Christians to compromise their convictions in some activities. It is fine to be popular, but not at the expense of our convictions nor our conscience. You can't be popular, in the sense of being accepted by the masses, and still be a true Christian. That is especially true among many youth groups who live only for one thing -- the flesh, and more of it.

The problem about which we are speaking now, as you should know from what has been previously said is the problem of physical intimacies among young, unmarried people. Physical intimacies are connected with something that is good, lovely, and powerful. They are connected with mating. God placed within our physical makeup the desire to mate and it is perfectly natural for a man who loves a woman to want to be close to her. God made us that way. But physical intimacies do not belong to

those who are not mated. Dancing and petting are two avenues used by the world to satisfy this desire of our physical makeup among those who are not mated. It is difficult, therefore, for young people to see any harm in such things unless they realize what is involved in such physical contact. This is one of their greatest problems because they naturally like such activities, but do not know why they like it until it's too late. Out of proper relationship, physical intimacy for man is dangerous. When animals of opposite sex engage in physical contact, it is always because they are mated. They never play at it. It is never prostituted; never degraded;for animals do not know how to degrade it. But man, because he is both an inner being as well as an an outer being, can degrade it; he can corrupt it; he can take it out of its proper channel. That is what all lust is. You can degrade anything that is good and right and many young people, because they are to the greatest extent walking in darkness in this respect, are unknowingly degrading something lovely when they engage in the modern dance or the activity of petting. That is where the wrong in dancing is. That is where physical intimacy is dangerous! It is lovely if you are mated - wrong if you are not. In such a case it is being trifled with and it is not a thing to be trifled with.

It is not only sinful to commit the act which physical intimacy engenders outside the prope relationship, but is also sinful to stir the desire. That's what Jesus said in his sermon on the mount. Young people are human and bodies develop early, and God has placed within us something that is powerful - that brings two people together, and if he hadn't made it powerful, I doubt that we would ever marry. We would see the responsibilities and all the things that are connected with marriage, and perhaps, shun the relationship if this desire were not the strongest desire in the world. God saw that it was not "good for man to be alone" so he made man a help suitable for him. He made this desire powerful within us - moving forward toward creation. All have that power when they come to womanhood and manhood, but God has placed some fences about it and he commands that we watch them - not kick them down. True liberty is found in observing the laws, both physical and spiritual, of God. Physical intimacy is for the marriage relationship only, not outside. No one, outside the marriage relationship, has the right to start something which we have no right to fulfill. With so much emphasis upon the flesh, our young Christians have a real problem as to the course of their conduct with regard to questionable activities. We can't tell them, "No, you can't do this or that" without giving them something in its place. Neither will we be able to help them see their way out of this social delimma by giving them the impression that "thou shalt not dance" is the strict law of the church. They must be taught Christian principles by which they can solve their every problem. They must be guided by their own conscience. As Christians, we do not live under a law of bondage. "For freedom did Christ set us free: Stand fast therefore, and be not entangled again in a yoke of bondage." Gal. 5:1. "I know, and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean of itself; save that to him who accounteth anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean . . . for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." Rom. 14: 14,17.

Let us teach our young people to "Be

. . . an example to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity." Let us, with the apostle Peter, say to them; that the world will think it strange that they do not run with them unto the same excess of riot, and condition them to the fact that they will speak evil of them for not engaging in certain activities. I Peter 4.

The devil asks for only the finger of our youth, but he will often take off their arm at the shoulder. All he asks is the finger; he keeps the consequences hidden from view. It is our responsibility in the home and from the pulpit and in our Bible classes to instill within our youth the principles of Christianity and they will, to a great degree, be able to solve their own problems.

"To every soul there is a high road and a low,
The great soul climbs the high road,
The small soul grasps the low,
And, in between, in the misty flats,
The rest drift to and fro."

NEWS

ROCKINGHAM, N. C., Leat @ Lawrence
Joe Riggs, Evangelist

A few weeks ago a goal of 70 was set by the church here. Since then we have gone over it twice, and now have set our aim for 75. The interest seems to be growing as is shown by the increase in our attendance. For the 1st. six months our attendance average was 69. This is about five above the average for last year. Due to the increase in attendance, the brethren are now considering a new and larger building. We are praying that the interest will continue and that the church will continue to grow. On July 12, Tim Peek was baptized into Christ, this makes four additions thus far this year.

We are looking forward to our fall meeting, October 4-14, with Bro. William Jackson, Florence, S. C. doing the preaching.

DURHAM, N. C., 1323 Watts St.
Harold Scott, Evangelist.

Bro. Harold Scott resigned the work here in June and will move to Statesville, N. C. in August where he has accepted an invitiation to work with the Broad St. congregation there.

During the month of June there was one baptism and one restoration.

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2201 N. Buncombe
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

We had a good five day vacation Bible school the first of July. Average attendance was 80 - 34 of these do not attend services of the Church of Christ.

On June 21 we broke all records in attendance with 104 for Sunday school and 135 for worship. Contribution was $170.13.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., 205 N. Claiborne
Ray D. Fullerton, Jr., Evangelist

On June 28 the church here set its second Bible school 'attendance goal' of 1959, and reached its all-time record attendance in Bible school and in worship since establishment less than two years ago. Ninety-two were present for Bible classes; 94 for worship. We set four such goals each year and Bro. Fullerton preaches four sermons each year on the Bible school. It represents

one of the finest means of church growth in the Carolinas. We have our new building under construction now despite tremendous opposition from several rich, influential families as well as the City Aldermen. Bro. Fullerton taught a class on "Teaching Intermediates" at the Blue Ridge Encampment.

SENECA, S. C., 706 Adams St.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

The church in Seneca continues to maintain its local work program, even though we are crippled temporarily by the loss of many members who are away for vacations and summer visits. Contributions are exceeding the budget by some $5.00 or more each Sunday, due to the fact that the absent members are good enough to send their contributions back home. We anticipate an upsurge in attendance and interest when Clemson College resumes its regular activities this fall.

SENECA, S. C. (colored)
Ernest D. Butler, Evangelist

Work has resumed on our unfinished meeting house, through the generosity of brethren in Tennessee, who have contributed to our needs. Financial assistance is yet urgently needed. Even a small contribution will assist our efforts greatly. We are small in number and problems beset us. May the Lord grant that our efforts be successful.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Una community. No preacher

The Fairview congregation here began a work in the Una community on May 31, 1959, in a rented store building. Sunday afternoon services were held until July 12 at which time a full schedule of services was started. Bro. J. D. Smith and Bro. Herschel J. Vehaun are assisting the new congregation. At present the attendance averages 15 with an average contribution of $14.88 over the past four weeks. Pray that this work may continue and grow and much and lasting good may be accomplished.

Visiting preachers will be welcomed, and anyone desiring to speak for us at any time should contact J. D. Smith, in Spartanburg, S. C., phone 2-1062.

KINSTON, N.C., 505 Nelson St.
Nelson Smith, Evangelist

Work continues to progress on our new building. Attendance and offerings are suffering some from 'vacation slump' as many places do but we are optimistic as to future growth especially when in our new house of worship. We solicit the prayers of our brethren. When our way worship with us.

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2 Marble Street
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

In our meeting last month we had one baptism and four confessions of wrong. This gives us a total of 26 responses to the invitation of Christ for the first 6 months of this year. Of this number, six were baptized and 20 acknowledged wrong. For Jan. through June, 1959, Sunday morning Bible study has averaged 127 and the worship service has averaged 140. We feel that God is blessing our efforts and we are grateful to Him and give Him the glory for every increase.

"WISDOM is knowing what to do next; SKILL is knowing how to do it; and VIRTUE is doing it." ..... selected.....

GREENWOOD, S. C., Highway 25, N.
U. O. Dover, Evangelist

Work is nearing completion on our new building which is located 5 miles out on highway 25 north. We plan to move into our new building by the end of July. Everyone is welcome to come and worship with us. The elders here are Bros. U. O. Dover, M. L. Brown, and S. Y. Williams. We have one Deacon, Bro. Dexter Beavers.

The congregation here is small in number but shows promise of growth with much hard work and help from God.

WILMINGTON, N. C., 215 S. 17th St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Our average attendance for the first half of 1959 was 82. We have had 7 additions thus far this year, praise God. Our vacation Bible school is scheduled for July 27. A colored tent meeting is planned for the last of August. Much good was done in our meeting in Perry, Fla. and a repeat is planned for next year. Preachers interested in a rural congregation with over 100 members, 50 miles southeast of Tallahassee, Fla., large opportunities, small support, should write to Joe Smith, Route # 2, Box 442, Perry, Fla. We regret to lose Jim Waldron and Bill Respess from this area. They have been wonderfully helpful and cooperative fellow-workers.

GASTONIA, N. C., 4th at Broad Sts.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist.

The church has moved one step further in the long drawn out process of completing its basic plant by installing inlaid tile in the basement recently. The building here was begun in 1953 and is being finished as need and money dictate.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., 1216 The Plaza
T. A. Issacs, Evangelist

We had a most successful vacation Bible school this year, setting a new attendance record. Both attendance and contributions have been good during the vacation season. Two ladies were baptized during the month of June. We have been blessed with many visitors for the past several weeks.

FLORENCE, S. C., 618 Gregg Ave.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist

This past month has seen our contribution average $113, with an average of 70 present for the a. m. service and 48 present for thep. m. service. One has recently been restored. For the very first time this congregation was represented on "Vespers", the local television devotional program. As an advertising medium, this week was very valuable. Our vacation Bible school dates: August 3 - August 7.

CAMDEN, S. C., McRae Rd.
Sewell Hall, Evangelist

For two weeks during the month of June we conducted a gospel meeting with Bro. U. Shields doing the preaching. We had good attendance. There were three baptized during the meeting for which we are thankful. We hope to have another meeting sometime in August or September. We are still happy in the work of the Lord, trying at all times to constrain the lost to come to Christ. Our young people are now meeting every Thurs. night to train themselves better in the work of the Lord. In this class many important topics are discussed. As you go to the Lord in prayer remember us and our work.

ALBEMARLE, N. C., Salisbury Hwy.
Frank R. Milton, Evangelist

Our gospel meeting ended July 2 with record crowds and one baptism. Our record attendance was 51 on Friday, June 26th. Until this meeting the membership was 14. Now we have 15. Bro. Raymond Crumbliss, Tuscumbia, Ala. was the preacher.

Bro. Paul Wilkinson, Ames, Oklahoma has decided to come to this section to work for the Lord. He is interested in holding a seven day meeting for some congregation who may be interested in having him work with them. Bro. Wilkinson is highly recommended by Bro. Frank R. Milton and anyone desiring further information regarding him may contact Bro. Milton.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Augusta Rd.
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

One was restored Sunday night, July 12th. We have had as many responses during the first seven months of this year than any full year before.

ANDERSON, S. C., 1400 S. McDuffie
Guy Nicholas, Evangelist

Bro. Barney Cargile from Hartwell, Georgia has just completed a very successful meeting here. We believe much good has been done by his efforts.

Our work here has progressed recently. We have six individual classes on Sunday morning for Bible study with 4 classes on Wednesday night. Each Sunday evening before the regular services our young people meet together for a period of devotional and study together. Our budget of $53.00 weekly has been met and exceeded for the last month. This is excellent considering the fact that there is an average attendance on Sunday morning of 30.

August 17 through August 28, Bro. R. E. Eubanks, North Little Rock, Ark. will be here for a week's Vacation Bible School and to hold a meeting. For a week prior to the meeting Bro. Eubanks will conduct a door to door campaign in which tracts will be passed out and people invited to attend the services the following week. Radio programs and newspaper advertisements will also be used in promoting this effort. The meeting will begin on the 23rd with the Bible school starting on Monday the 24th. Classes will be conducted each morning from 9 a. m. to 11 p. m. Transportation will be provided for all who wish to attend. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

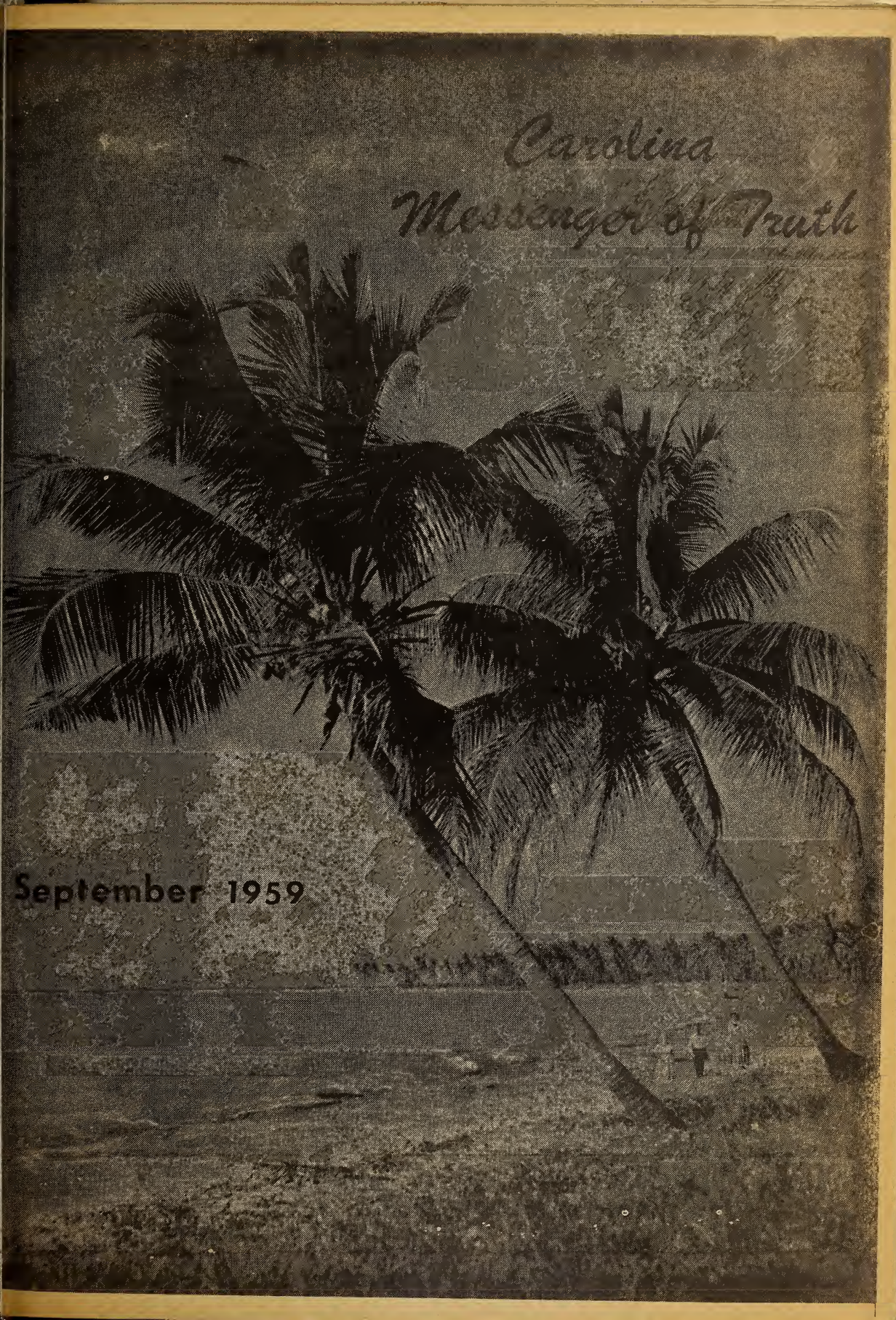
We hope the work will grow in this area.

SELINA, TENNESSEE
Walter E. Neal

Sure did hate to leave all of the good brethren in both North and South Carolina, but it did seem that nothing would open up for us to stay, so we arrived here June 10 to work with what is known as the Oak Grove congregation between Moss and Red Boling Spring on Highway 52. The congregation has about 150 members. A good country church building, but no house for the preacher. If you are ever in these parts, come to see us.

Cover photo supplied through the courtesy of the Goldsboro, N. C. Chamber of Commerce upon request of Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. It features the newly installed hanging flower baskets of the city.

Carolina Messenger of Truth



September 1959

A Word Of Explanation

by B. EDWARD DAVIS, News-Editor

In any kind of joint undertaking, especially in one that involves association with a great many different people, it is always necessary to strive for complete clarity of purpose, and understanding. The compilation, editing, and production of the "MESSENGER' is an enterprise that demands extreme care in this matter, for not only does the editorial staff of this periodical have contact with widely-scattered people from two states, but, to make it even more important, these people are fellow Christians!

It is, therefore, with the noblest and best intentions that we present the following article in an effort to produce complete understanding and clear comprehension of the ideals and purpose of this journal, in the gathering and publication of news from the various fields of endeavor in the Carolinas.

First of all, let us make it abundantly clear that the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH exists for the sole purpose of serving the brethren in Christ in North and South Carolina! From first to last, from top to bottom, this is a non-profit organization, in which not one member of the staff receives any financial remuneration for services rendered. This periodical came into existence, in the first place, because a need was felt for a publication that would serve both as a teaching and a news-reporting medium, dedicated to service and not profit. This being true, we feel justified in asking for your cooperation and assistance in supplying us with clear, complete, up-to-date information regarding the various activities in this area. We do not have a crew of highly-paid, eagle-eyed 'news-hounds' traveling to and fro over the country, searching for news to report. Every item of information that comes to our desk is volunteered by some individual, or group of individuals, who think it worthy of the attention of our brethren. The only people connected with the jornal, other than those whose names appear inside the front cover each month, are those fourteen, fine, consecrated, Gospel preachers scattered throughout these two states, who have been asked to work on the local level simply to encourage and urge the congregations in their areas to supply us with news at regular intervals. They receive no remuneration of any kind, other than the satisfaction of a job well done. Since this is true, please do not become too upset with us, when we omit mention of some worthy project that needed to be reported through the pages of the "Messenger", for we probably knew nothing about it! We do not think we should be required to know, without being told, everything that transpires in the 83,767 square miles of North and South Carolina, and keep you well informed of the progress being made. We will be happy to print every news item we receive, but we simply cannot know of what is being done, until we have been told about it.

In the next place, may we beg for your indulgence regarding mistakes and errors that are made in each issue! We know about them too, and probably are more concerned than any of you, but we freely confess that we are "amateurs" in this business, and hope that you will bear with us until we receive enough experience to eliminate the most glaring of our transgressions.

We believe, moreover, that the majority of our brethren have recognized the tremendous odds against publishing an error-free

continued on page 5

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia, S. C.	7:30 P. M.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C.	2:30 P. M.
WBTW, Chl. 8, Florence	11:30 A. M.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 P. M.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington, N. C.	-noon
WJMX	2:30 P. M.
WKIX	2:30 P. M.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 P. M.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 A. M.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 P. M.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 P. M.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 P. M.
WHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WRRZ, Clinton, N. C.	2:30 P. M.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham, N. C.	9:15 A. M.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 A. M.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380	9:15 A. M.
WHIP, Mooresville, N. C.	4:30 P. M.
WACA, 1590	8:40 A. M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.	8:45 A. M.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 A. M.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.	8:45 A. M.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.	9:30 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	10:00 A. M.
WGBR, Goldsboro, N. C.	8:30 A. M.

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.	11:45 A. M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.

WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING IF THE RADIO AND TELEVISION LISTINGS HEREIN ARE CORRECT OR COMPLETE UNLESS YOU LET US HEAR FROM YOU REGARDING THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE PROGRAMS BROADCAST IN YOUR AREA!

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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(Page Three)

"Closed"



by C. W. BRADLEY
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

At exactly 4:00 P. M. on Monday, January 31, a card on which was written the word, "closed" was placed in the window at the auto license desk. Almost a hundred people were left standing in the line. No doubt many of them felt that the man at the desk should have mercy on them and keep his office open until they could get their license. But the day was over and the sign read, "CLOSED".

For two months all of us knew that January 31 was the final day. For two months all of us had opportunity to purchase our new automobile license. Perhaps many thought they were too busy with other matters to take time to get their license. Perhaps, still others were just plain indifferent about the matter. Perhaps others were always going on the morrow. And perhaps some who meant well just simply neglected and let the day slip up on them. But regardless of the reasons or excuses, at 4 o'clock the 'closed' sign was placed in the window and many were left standing in line.

Jesus gave a parable of some people who were left standing in the line. He branded them as "foolish". In Matt. 25 the parable is recorded. There were ten virgins. All of them knew that in order to attend the marriage feast they would need oil in their lamps. All of them had plenty of opportunity to buy oil. But when the bridegroom came, five of these girls had no oil and their lamps went out. Those who were ready went in with him, "And the door was shut." Those who were left on the outside cried, "Lord, Lord, open to us." But he answered and said, "Verily I say unto you, I know you not." The sign read, 'closed.'

This parable was given to warn and admonish us to be ready when the Lord shall come. All of us know that he is coming. All of us know that in order to be welcomed into heaven, we must be prepared. All of us can learn how to prepare by studying the Bible. All of us can do the things God has commanded us. All of us have the opportunity to get prepared.

But many are too busy with other matters to bother about getting their license for heaven. Some are so busy making money they just have no time for spiritual matters. Some are so wrapped up in having a good time they just have no time left for the work of the Lord. It is not wrong to make money; it is not wrong to have a good time. But it is wrong to let money or pleasure or anything else consume so much of our time that we have none left to do the things that are really important.

Then there are those who are always going to become a Christian 'tomorrow.' They

are waiting for that "more convenient day". It never comes. Many die every day in a lost condition who intended to become a Christian 'tomorrow'. No one has any assurance of a tomorrow. "Tomorrow's sun may never rise." "Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2.

Still others are just plain indifferent about spiritual matters. They simply have no taste, no concern for God's word. Their hearts are hardened. They don't care.

And some who mean well just simply neglect the great salvation. Without realizing what they are doing, they will let the day of the Lord slip up on them. And they will stand there unprepared.

When the final day comes and the sign reads, "Closed", many will no doubt beg the Lord to have mercy upon them and let the world stand just a little longer so they can get ready, but the day of mercy will then be over. . . . . THE SIGN WILL READ, "CLOSED".

Many who read this are not Christians. Do you belive that Jesus Christ is the son of God and the Saviour of the world? Do you believe that he gave his precious blood on Calvary that your sins and my sins might be forgiven? Are you willing to confess him now? Are you willing to repent of all sins in your life? Are you willing to obey him in being baptized, "for the remission of your sins"? Acts 2:38. Are you willing to live for him throughout your days upon the earth? If you are, you can live with the assurance that on that great day when you stand before him in judgment, the door will not be closed in your face, but rather you will be welcomed in to live with him forever. You are urged to become a Christian today.

(continued from page 2)

paper, and are willing to be somewhat merciful in this regard. We do try, each month, to find all the typographical errors omissions, and misinformation, but this is well-nigh impossible. And, speaking frankly, I daresay that nearly all of us have had the experience of seeing news that we submitted to even the older and larger brotherhood publications be printed with wrong names, incorrect address, or some other such misinformation. As a matter of fact, when this writer submitted the announcement regarding the beginning of the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH to some of the papers in Tennessee and Texas, some of which are more than 100 years old, the name of one of the staff writers was completely omitted, and the address of another was incorrectly given! This is seen often!

So, we simply ask you to please remember that we are fellow-members of the human race, subject to all the mistakes, blunders, and slips that plague everyone of God's noblest creatures, and grant your forebearance and patience. You may be assured that we are trying to improve our publication. We believe that we have made progress in its appearance, its make-up, and its content, but this is a journey that sees those who travel it move by inches and feet, rather than furlongs and miles!

With the Lord's permission, we will some day have a periodical that will compare favorably with any in the brotherhood. To that end, we are bending all our efforts. Will you help us???

$$

There is now available through the "Carolina Messenger Of Truth" copies of the 1959 Church Directory for North and South Carolina. Anyone desiring to have a copy may obtain same by sending $ .50 along with their name and address

WHAT THE AVERAGE PERSON CAN KNOW ABOUT BAPTIS

by BURL CURTIS, Editor

Few have studied Greek therefore the majority must depend on a translation to know anything about the Revelation of God. Do we have reliable translations? Yes!! In fact, there is no translation so poor that a man could not learn what he must do to go to heaven. We are fully assured that the translations from the original Greek are correct and this is especially true with reference to the subject of baptism.

If you are at any time engaged in a discussion with a person who does not know Greek, obviously you should not attempt to meet him on a ground which is unfamiliar to him and about which you are ignorant. The wonderful thing about the Bible is that you do not have to know Greek to defend the truth. First, get the person to agree that we have correct translations of the Word of God. Nearly all will readily do this. Then you can take any translation (that I know of) and show the truth about baptism.

What should one be baptized in? You can know without one lesson in Greek that the answer is water. Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Jno. 3:5. Peter asked, "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized. . . " Acts 10:47.

How much water should be used? Just enough water to be sure the person is buried. John the Baptist used the Jordan River and baptizing in AEnon near to Salim, because there was much water there. Jno. 3:23. There must be enough water for both the preacher and the candidate to go down into for Acts 8:38 declares that both Phillip and the eunuch "went down, both into the water." Paul says that we are buried with Christ by baptism, therefore, there must be enough water to bury a person in. Rom. 6:4.

Who is to be baptized? We read in Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. . ." "And many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized." Acts 18:8. Thus we see that the one who believes is a suitable subject for baptism.

What is the purpose of baptism? A correct translation of the scriptures says that it saves. "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." I Pet. 3:21. It puts us into Christ. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Gal. 3:27. It washes away sin. "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." Acts 22:16

Either the Word of God teaches the foregoing truths or we have a most incorrect translation of the Bible. Are you ready to throw away the wonderful old book, the Bible. Of course, you are not. Why not believe and obey the truth about baptism today?

"He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved; he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16

THINK ON THESE THINGS.....

"MEETINGS"

SPARTANBURG, S. C. (Una congregation) September 6-12 with a different speaker each night. SINGING at 3:00 P.M. on September 6.

SALISBURY, N. C. (1201 N. Main St.) September 14-20 with Bro. Gary McDonald, Asheboro, N.C., speaking each evening at 7:30 P.M.

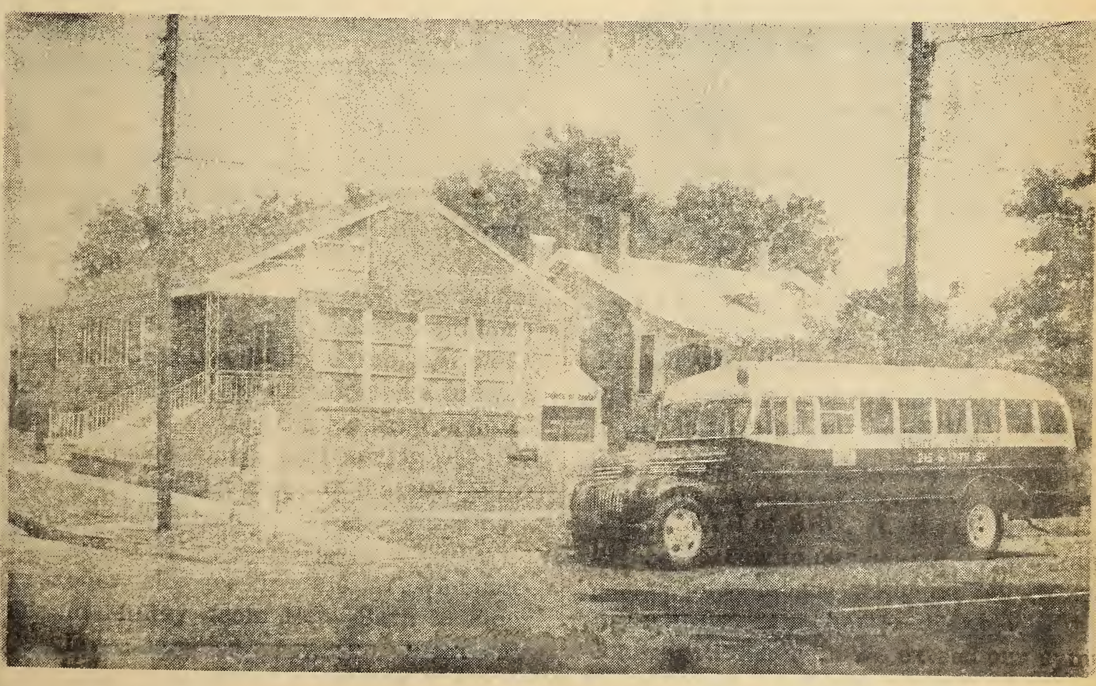
FROGMORE, S. C. (colored) Bro. J. W. Green, Savannah, Georgia, will speak each evening August 30 - September 13.

GREENVILLE, S. C. (Buncombe Road) HOMECOMING and SINGING with a dinner on the grounds will be held on September 6. Plan now to attend.

GREENVILLE, S. C. (Augusta Rd.) September 15-24, Bro. Charles Stovall, Memphis, Tennessee, speaking. Services at 7:45 nightly.

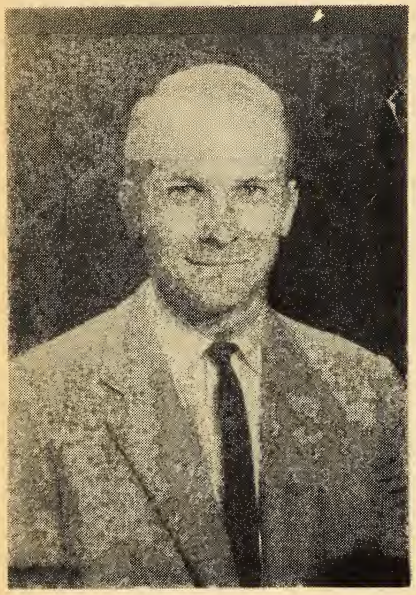
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"BUS IN OPERATION IN WILMINGTON, N. C."



The Wilmington Church of Christ put this bus into operation in connection with their Vacation Bible School. Out of the 100 students attending about half were brought in by the bus. It is now being used on a regular route through one quarter of the city.

TEEN TOPICS



by James S. Woodroof,
West Columbia, So. Car.

This article is being written from the campus of the Y. M. C. A. Fresh Air Camp of Charlotte, North Carolina. The grounds at this camp are rented each year by the Carolina Bible Camp. The grounds are breathtakingly beautiful. All who come see the wonders of nature so abundant here and are made aware of the graciousness of God in giving us such beauties to enjoy. As I write this very sentence, the July flies are singing in the trees. The sun has set. The refreshing coolness of evening has begun to envelope the campus, and I'm reminded of the statement in the Book; "And they heard the voice of Jehovah walking in the garden in the cool of the day". In just a few moments voices united in praise to Jehovah will be heard throughout the campus and also before His throne, we hope and pray. The moon has been full for one or two nights this week. As I looked, night before last, at the moon and stars looking down upon the camp I remembered another part of God's blessed Word; "and God made the two great lights; the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night. He made the stars also." Indeed, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handywork."

Carolina Bible Camp was begun by interested Christians in North and South Carolina. These Christians saw the need of providing Christian recreation in a Bible atmosphere for young people of this area. Every year young people from practically every part of both states flock to these beautiful camp grounds for a week or two weeks of Bible study, worship, and recreation. This week concludes its fourth year of operation. This week was the first two week encampment. Approximately 300 campers (total enrollment) enrolled for these two weeks, with many staying for both weeks.

Every camper has two Bible classes, 1 singing class and chapel each day. The afternoon is filled with the finest kind of recreation. At this very moment it is six minutes till eight o'clock. I must leave now, because at eight o'clock each evening all the campers assemble in the chapel to worship God. What an inspiring way to close each day.

Now that chapel is over and the campers have enjoyed refreshments, they have returned to their cabins for devotionals before bed. A good nights sleep will make them rested and ready for another full day tomorrow.

Did you miss out on the camp this year? For only $15.50 you can enjoy a week of recreation and study that you'll never forget. See you next year!!

Things We Can Know

by C. C. Vaughan
colored congregation
Camden, S.C.

In Deut. 29:29 it is said, "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law." Thus we see that Israel was required to do all that God commanded. Even now in our day we are to observe all that Christ commands us to do. Matt. 28: 19-20. We can know God and obey him. I John 2: 3-4. God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God. Deut. 4:24. We can know the truth and obey it. John 8: 31-32. We can know that God is no respector of persons, but whosoever doeth his will is accepted with him. Acts 10: 34-35. We can know that we shall die and be judged. I Pet. 1: 14; Heb. 9:27. When we know and do not, it is sin. James 4:17.

In the Bible we learn that man has wondered away from God, and in his present condition he has no hope of salvation until he comes back to God where salvation is found. Never did Christ promise to save any man in his sins. Even the Angel who foretold of the work and birth of Christ said, "He shall save his people from their sins." Matt. 1:21. Isaiah, the prophet, pleaded, let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord who will have mercy upon him; and to our God for he will abundantly pardon. Isa. 55:7. Seeing that we are to be saved from our sins, and that we must come to God to get this salvation, why should men hesitate. God, the Father, and Christ are both interested in the salvation of all mankind. God gave his only begotten son: John 3:16. Christ gave his life: John 15:13. Salvation is in Christ. Acts 4:12. It is now man's responsibility to get into Christ where salvation is, according to Christ's terms. Christ suffered in Man's stead with his blood he purchased the Church. Acts 20:28. Christ only purchased one church. It is his wife, Rom. 7:4, and therefore required to wear the name of Christ. Christ commanded one gospel to be preached and in the one gospel is found Christ's plan for making children of God. Man, in order to be saved from sins, must be willing to do what Christ has commanded to make one a Christian. Man must be willing to forsake his ways, his thoughts, his opinions, and his feelings; believe and obey what God has told him to do. If we never do what the word says to become children of God we will never do what Christ commanded and therefore we will never be Christians in God's sight. Man must hear the word as it is written and believe it. Acts 15:7. Man must repent of sins, Luke 13:3. Man must confess that Christ is the son of God, Acts 8: 37. And last, man must be baptized in order to wash his sins away. Acts 22:16. When these five steps are taken Christ adds such to his Church. Acts 2:47. The law of the Lord is perfect converting the soul. Ps. 19:7.

"SPECIAL ISSUE"

The OCTOBER ISSUE of this publication will be a special issue covering FIRST PRINCIPLES subjects entirely. We are doing this in connection with the forthcoming fall meetings at many of the congregations. USE this issue in your personal work during and preceeding your meeting.

NEWS

ASHEVILLE, N. C. 54 Vance St.
Waymon Love, Evangelist

Two were restored following the morning service on Sunday, August 16. Our work continues to show progress. Contributions have averaged over $125.00 for the past two months.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

The work here is doing very well. Attendance and interest is still high; contribution the best average ever. Bro. Hall will work two more full days with us beginning Sept. 1st. We hope that within the year we will have a full time worker. Three have been restored since last report. Our tent meeting at Stone Station was well attended. Our August meeting with Bro. Burton was cancelled but we arranged for different speakers each evening and had a good meeting. God Bless your efforts with the 'Messenger'.

CLEMMONS, N. C., Route # 1
Warner's Chapel
Darrell E. Beard, Evangelist

Our attendance and contribution have been holding up quite well in spite of sickness and vacations. Two have been baptized recently and one has moved in from Winston-Salem. We plan a men's training class in the fall.

On Monday, August 10, Bro. Clifford Davis, preacher for the Capernium and Redland colored congregations near here, visited with the elders and minister of Warner's Chapel, and told of his desire to purchase a tent and chairs to hold meetings over North and South Carolina next year. He has been planning this work for some time. He has been preaching for about 12 years and comes highly recommended from Marshall Keeble and the congregations ofr which he has labored in the past. He needs help from some of the white congregations interested in the work among colored people. Since he is new in North Carolina, we use this means to introduce him to you. If you would like to contact him, his address is: Clifford S. Davis, Route 1, Advance, N. C.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., 1216 The Plaza
T. A. Issacs, Evangelist

Carolina Bible Camp is in its second week at this writing. It has been a busy time for all who have had a part in this work. Bro. Waymon Love, Asheville, N. C.; Bro. O. P. Baird, Columbia, S. C. and Bro. Nelson Smith, Kinston, N. C. preached for us while Bro. Issacs had to be at camp. Aug. 16 was our largest Bible school, Sunday morning attendance and contribution since the start of the vacation season.

ALEXANDER, N. C., Red Oak
No preacher

The meeting held here the first of July with Bro. Bob Sorrell was most edifying to the members here and was attended regularly by several outside the church. There were no converts with one restoration.

The meeting held in Barnardsville, N. C. with Bro. Elmer Smith of Tennessee also saw no converts but we believe that God's word will not return unto him void. With the exception of one family in Barnardsville, the people had not heard of the church of Christ. OH! yes, one lady said she had heard of it because Pat Boone was a member. Leaflets were distributed over the community.

SPARTANBURG, S. C. (Una)
Box 65

(continued Una congregation)
We are making plans for a gospel meeting to be held Sept. 6-12 with different speakers each service. There will be a gospel singing on September 6 at 3 P.M. Bro. J. D. Smith assisted by Bro. Herschel Vehaun is doing a fine job working with the congregation here. We are hopeful that we can secure a full time preacher soon. Our attendance continues to increase with each service. Since our last report we have had no baptisms but have had one to confess wrong. Continue to pray for us in our work here.

SALISBURY, N. C., North Main St.
Paul Sikes, Evangelist

We will have a gospel meeting from Sept. 14-20 with Bro. Gary MacDonald, Asheboro, N. C. speaking. Services each evening at 7:30 P. M.

WILMINGTON, N. C., 215 S. 17th St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

We began operation of our church bus on July 27 bringing children to V. B. S. On Wednesday of that week the bus brought a total of 63 to V. B. S. which was over half of our total attendance of 100. We are presently using the bus for Sunday morning services only. Seven from here attended Carolina Bible Camp last week and we are already planning on a full bus load for next year. Our colored meeting has been postponed until spring when we will use Quincy Carter of Statesville for a six-weeks meeting.

Preacher changes in this area include: Ronald McRay from New Bern to Sioux City, Iowa; James L. Frazier, Boone, N. C. to Jacksonville, N. C. and a fulltime preacher has moved to Clarendon, N. C. to work with that congregation.

Our fall meeting is scheduled for Oct. 19 with Dabney Phillips preaching. A word of good news for the work in the Raleigh-Durham area comes from friends in Decatur, Ala. Chemstrand Corp. is transferring about 100 families to this area. It is known that at least four of these are Christian families and quite likely there are many others. The transfers will take place in 1960 or sooner.

CHESTER, S. C., 135 Saluda Street
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

In our VBS attendance exceeded our expectation with over 80 enrolled. Considering that there are only 10 children within the congregation we feel that this was an excellent number. The church recently withdrew from a disorderly member. A new series of cottage meetings are to begin within a few weeks.

GREENVILLE, S. C., 2201 N. Buncombe
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

We had one to confess wrong and to place membership on Aug. 2. This congregation will start using the 'zone system' this month. Bro. Smith was at camp for two weeks.

.....WARNING.....
DO NOT give financial aid to Floyd E. Prince who claims to have been a member of the central church in Chattanooga, Tenn. until the first of July. ---Bill G. Smith.

.....
The DEATH of BRO. H. H. CAMP, SR. brings sorrow to our hearts. Bro. Camp passed away Monday, August 24, at his home. He was a charter member of the congregation here. We extend our sympathies to his family.
.....

FROGMORE, S. C., Box 83 (colored)
no preacher

(continued Frogmore, S. C.)
We plan a meeting, August 30-Sept. 13 with Bro. J. W. Green, Carver Village Church, Savannah, Ga. We had more visitors during the month of June than ever before. We had one restoration and one baptism. This gives us a total membership of six (6). We have Bible study on the Lord's day at 2:00 P. M. and the highest number to attend was 10 and our mid-week Bible class on Thurs. at 8:00 P. M. with highest attendance at 7. Please pray for our success in our meeting. We would appreciate your help financially in any small way.

SENECA, S. C.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

The past few Sundays have been 'good' days for us here in Seneca. On August 16th, there were three restorations of delinquent members. The contribution on Sunday, August 23rd, was the highest it has been since I began working with the church here nearly a year ago - $132.00. This is a tremendous step forward for the congregation, since the average weekly income during 1958 was only $61.02. Some of our summer absentees are returning now, but a good many will not be back until the latter part of Sept. One lady placed membership with us recently.

SENECA, S. C. (colored congregation)
Ernest D. Butler, Evangelist

Through the generosity of our brethren in surrounding areas, we have been able to do much work on our church building. A sub-floor has been laid, which will have to serve the purpose until other funds become available. Brethren from Greenville, S. C. have been coming down on Saturdays, and working from daylight to dark so that this work can go forward. Contributions have been received from several white congregations in this area, as well as other brethren in Tenn. If all goes well, we will begin meeting in our new building the first Sunday in September. All of the brethren in surrounding areas are invited to attend. Contine to remember us in your prayers, and in your budget. Assistance is needed yet. We are in desperate need of chairs, as well as many other vital items of equipment. But, if the Lord continues to smile upon our efforts, the church here will move forward as never before.

A NEW SERVICE EXTENDED

Upon the suggestion of several congregations, the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH, after much thought and consideration has decided to offer the following service to the churches in North and South Carolina. Compile and send to us a mailing list, complete with name and address of each person that you wish to have receive the "Messenger" each month. We will then mail out one copy each month to each name on your list. The cost for this service will be same as the bundle rates, $ .10 per copy plus $ .02 per copy for additional postage and handling. We will not, however, be able to handle any list of less than twenty-five (25).

AVAIL YOURSELVES OF THIS SERVICE!

Carolina Messenger of Truth



SPECIAL ISSUE

October 1959

54 Vance St., Asheville, N. C.

RADIO AND TELEVISION GUIDE

"SUNDAY"

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia, S. C.	7:30 p. m.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C.	2:30 p. m.
WBTW, Chl. 8, Florence	11:30 p. m.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 p. m.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington	noon
WJMX	2:30 p. m.
WKIX	2:30 p. m.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 p. m.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 a. m.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 p. m.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 p. m.
WGNT, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 p. m.
WHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WRRZ, Clinton, N. C.	2:30 p. m.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham, N. C.	9:15 a. m.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 a. m.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380-	9:15 a. m.
WHIP, Mooresville, N. C.	4:30 p. m.
WACA, 1590	8:40 a. m.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 a. m.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.	9:30 a. m.
WBAW, 740, Barnewell, S. C.	10:00 a. m.
WGBR, Goldsboro, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WENC, 1240, Whiteville, N.C.	1:45 p. m.

"TUESDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.

"THURSDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.
WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.	11:45 A. M.

"SATURDAY"

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.

"MONDAY-FRIDAY"

WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

We have no way of knowing if the radio and television listings herein are correct. or if they are complete unless we hear from you

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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FAITH



BY Jack Byars,
Kannapolis, North Carolina

When an unbeliever wakes up to the realization that he is lost and in need of the Savior he is immediately faced with the question, "What must I do to be saved?" This question was asked in the early days of the church and it continues to arise in the hearts of all who seek eternal life. Since the question is both asked and answered in the New Testament that is where we go to find God's will in the matter.

In answer to this question, we learn that faith is an essential element in the salvation of every soul. Paul declares justification to be by faith. (Rom. 5:1, Gal. 3:24). The Hebrew writer says, "without faith it is impossible to please him." (Heb. 11:6). Before returning to heaven Jesus said, "He that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16) In other places He said, "If ye believe not. . . . ye shall die in your sins." and, "He that believeth not is condemned already . . ." (John 8:24; 3:18) Since without faith it is impossible to walk favorably before God and its presence or absence in his life determines the salvation or the destruction of his soul, man is constrained to make faith a virtue in his life.

Seeing faith is of such moment in the life of every person, what must we have faith in or what must we believe to be saved? After our Lord's resurrection he commissioned his apostles to "preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved . . ." What were they to believe? The answer is simple. They were to believe the gospel or the good news concerning the Son of God. Luke tells us when Philip taught the Ethiopian the way of truth that he 'preached unto him Jesus." (Acts 8: 35.) In the officer's confession can be seen what man must believe, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." John states that the purpose of his recording events in the life of the Lord was, "that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. . . " (John 20: 31). When the Philippian jailer cried, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul directed by the Holy Spirit commanded him to "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved . . ." (Acts 16: 30, 31). The answer to our question is, man must believe in the Son of God to be saved.

The sonship of Christ is the promise on which all Christianity revolves. Jesus claimed to be the Son of God, "I and my Father are one." (John 10:30). God declared Christ to be his son at his baptism

"Faith" (continued)
and at the transfiguration. "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." (Matt. 3:17, 17:5). The Holy Spirit designated him "Son of God in power." (Rom. 1:4). The truth that Jesus is the Son of God is the foundation on which the church is built. It is the confession on which the Ethiopian was permitted to be baptized. It is the truth men must believe today to be saved.

To believe in Jesus Christ is to embrace all he is. It is to have confidence in his death, burial and resurrection and to know that Jesus will bring about all he has promised in rewarding the righteous and punishing the wicked. When a sinner believes this with all his heart he willingly renounces worldliness and gladly yields himself in obedience to Christ. When the Pentecostians believed in Jesus they repented and were baptised thereby becoming Christians. (Acts 2:38, 47). By maintaining his faith in Christ, the Christian has a shield whereby he is able to stop all the advances of Stan. (Eph. 6:16). Eventually he gains entrance into the kingdom of heaven to which his faith has made him heir. (James 2:5).

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TEMPER!!

A little boy who had been punished for displaying an ugly temper was sent to bed with instructions to pray that he might be a better boy in the future and, that his temper might be reformed. A few minutes later, his mother went to the door of the child's room to see if he was carrying out the instructions and this is what she heard: "O, Lord, please take away my temper, and while you are about it, take mother's too."

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A Worthy Example

By DABNEY PHILLIPS
Chester, South Carolina

Prior to February of this year Anne Long had never heard of the church of our Lord. She moved next to the church building and soon began attending services. The last of March Anne obeyed the gospel of Christ. It is stimulating to know of her love for the church.

After becoming a Christian Sis. Long became interested in others knowing of the more perfect way of the Lord. A cottage meeting was conducted in her home each Thursday evening with several adult non-members being present. In our vacation Bible school Anne was responsible for thirty (30) children being in attendance. It is not unusual for her to be responsible for fourteen persons or more to be present for services on Lord's day. In twenty one years of preaching the gospel I have never met a Christian that has had more success in bringing others to services than Anne Long.

The zeal of Anne, who is still a novice in the church, puts to shame so many, who have been in the body of Christ for years. The Church at Chester is blest in having her as a member. The writer thought her loving service to Christ might serve as an inspiration to others to "go thou and do likewise."

REPENTANCE

by C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.



"I have sinned." To sincerely utter these words is difficult. And even more difficult are these words, "I'm truly sorry for the sins I have committed, and I want to be forgiven. I shall strive to turn away from all sin. When a sinner admits his guilt and determines to change his life, he has repented. This, God requires of all who would be saved. There never has been a sinner in any age who could stand approved before God until he repented.

No theme is emphasized more in both the Old and New Testaments than that of repentance. Over and over, through the Old Textament prophets, God called upon people to repent. When we come to the New Testament, we can read only two chapters before finding these words, "And in those days cometh John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea saying, Repent ye. . ." (Matt. 3:1). With Jesus it was, "Repent or perish. . . ." (Luke 13:3). When Christ Chose the twelve apostles and sent them forth, "They went out, and preached that men should repent" (Mark 6:12). One of these apostles wrote, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering to youward, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9). Five of the seven churches in Asia were called upon to repent (Revelation 2-3). Truly, yesterday, today, and as long as this world shall stand, God's message to man is, "Repent or perish."

Before one can repent, he must be convicted of his sins. Without accusing others, or excusing himself, he must see that he is a sinner. However, it is possible to freely admit guilt and never repent. Many today who frankly confess that they are sinful and lost still refuse to repent.

Before true repentance there must be a deep sorrow, a sense of real grief because of the recognition of sins committed. However, not all sorrow causes one to repent, and certainly sorrow within itself is not repentance. The Rich Young Ruler went away from Jesus "sorrowful" but he did not repent. Haven't you known people who were filled with sorrow because they were caught sinning? But did they repent? That sorrow must be so real that it will cause one to put sin out of his life. An empty, outward manifestation of sorrow has often been confused with real repentance.

True repentance will always lead to a reformation of life, however, it is possible for a person to quit a sin without

"Repentance" (continued)
actually repenting of it. A young man might stop drinking in order to win the favor of a pretty girl without even a thought of the sin of strong drink. Some who have done this very thing start drinking again after the wedding ceremony. Suppose a thief should say, "Now that I have plenty to live comfortably the remainder of my life, and since I know that I have been very fortunate not to have been caught thus far, I believe that I will stop stealing." Should he actually stop stealing and never steal another thing, has he repented?

Webster says that to repent is "To resolve to mend one's life as a result of contrition for one's sins. . . to change one's mind with regard to past or intennded action, conduct, etc., on account of regret or dissatisfaction." This explains why it is so difficult to get people to repent. It takes place in the mind and the greatest of battles are fought, and either won or lost, in the human mind.

One of our Lord's shortest parables serves as one of the Bible's finest illustrations of repentance. "A man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work today in my vineyard. And he answered and said, I will not; but afterward he repented himself and went. . ." (Matthew 21:28-29). The going was not repentance; it followed repentance. His going was the result of repentance. When did he repent? What was the repentance? At first, he said, "I will not go." But later, " He repented himself and went." Did he not repent the moment he stopped saying, "I will not" and began saying, "I will"? And was not his repentance simply a change of mind or attitude which led to a change in his life? The sinner today repents when he stops saying, "I will not serve God," and begins saying, "I will serve God."

The Prodigal Son is another good example of repentance. He said, "I have sinned," and this was followed by, " I will arise and go home. . ." And "Father make me. " He went home and the father was waiting to welcome him and accept him back. Today the sinner who says, " I have sinned and I will arise and go home. . . and, Father, I want you to make me and mould me after your will," has repented. The Father is waiting to welcome and accept him.

In the New Testament we can find several motives which were used in the first century to induce sinners to repent. We should use them today. In pleading with the people in Athens to repent, Paul told them of the 'judgment day' in which he will judge the world in righteousness." (Acts 17:31). Have you ever pictured yourself standing before God on that day? To the Corinthians, Paul worte, "Godly sorrow worketh repentance unto salvation.: (2 Corinthians 7:10). Have you ever thought about how your sins must grieve the God who made you? He wants so much to save you, but he cannot until you recognize the horribleness of your sins. Paul asked the Romans, "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forebearance and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" (Romans 2:4). Have you ever seriously considered how much God loves you? Have you ever stood, "Beneath the Cross of Jesus," and asked yourself the question, Why? The answer is that God loves you so much and wants you to be saved so much that he let Jesus die on that cross that you might be saved.

What a wonderful privilege is repentance! What if God would never let us come back to him once we sinned? Surely, one of the greatest of all blessings is that of being able to repent of sins.

"Repentance" (continued)
How beautiful is repentance! If you were asked to choose three of the most beautiful things in the world, what would you select? Someone has said that three of the most beautiful things in the world are a mother's love, a baby's smile and a penitent tear for one's own sins.

Will you repent today? Do you have a sincere sorrow for all sins in your life? Are you willing to resolve that you will turn away from sin? And will you arise and go to God and bow in complete submission to him? Don't forget, it is, "REPENT OR PERISH."

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"MEETINGS"

STATESVILLE, N. C. -Sewell Hall doing the preaching.

TRYON, N. C. - Oct. 19-27 with Brother James Woodroof, West Columbia, S. C. preaching.

DUNCAN, S. C. - Roy Burgess, Woodbury, Tenn., speaking on Sept. 30-Oct. 11 with services nightly at 7:30 P. M.

SENECA, S. C. - September 27-Oct. 4th. Different speakers nightly at 7:30 P. M.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Judson - Brother Clyde Hale, Nashville, Tennessee doing the preaching.

FLORENCE, S. C. - Oct. 18-25, John Payne, Alexander City, Alabama, doing the speaking at 8:00 p. m. each night. Singing on Oct. 18 at 3:00 p. m.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C. - William N. Jackson, speaker, Florence, S. C. Oct. 4-14. Services each night.

GREENVILLE, S. C. -Buncombe Rd. - October 4-11 with Newton Gribble, Selma, Alabama speaking nightly at 7:30 p. m.

CHESTER, S. C. - Bro. Earle West, Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 1-8.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C. - Bro. Noyles E. Sewell, Wilmington, N. C., speaking. October 1-8 each night at 8:00 p. m.

WILMINGTON, N. C. - Brother Dabney Phillips, Chester, S. C., speaking. October 19-25 at 7:30 p. m. each night.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C. - October 4-9 - nightly at 7:30 p. m. with Bro. Dabney Phillips, Chester, S. C., speaker.

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-THINK-

The knock on the door brought the busy housewife and mother to the door. Standing there was a man, with a Bible in his hand. Without a word of introduction, he asked, "Does Jesus Live Here?"

The woman, although she was a Christian, was so flustered by the unexpected question that she did not answer but shut the door. All day long the man's question bothered her. That evening when her husband came home she told him about it.

He laughed. "Why didn't you tell him we are good members of the church? You could have told him that we send the children to Bible school every Sunday, that we attend services and give to the church. We are a respected family."

"Yes, I know all that," she replied, "But he didn't ask me if we belonged to the church. He asked me if Jesus Lived in this house." ---selected----

CONFESSION



by O. P. BAIRD
Park Street Congregation
Columbia, South Carolina

When Philip had preached Jesus to the eunuch of Ethiopia, the eunuch said, "Behold, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?" (Acts 8:36). According to the King James Version, Philip said, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God." (Acts 8:37). This passage has been given many times as the reason for asking a person who is about to be baptized if he believes Jesus is the Son of God. Actually it seems certain that verse 37 has been added to the text by some early copyist. The King James Version is the only translation I have found that gives verse 37. I have just examined eight translations other than the King James and have referred to Tischendorf, Westcott and Hort, and Alford, outstanding names on the field of textual criticism. All agree that it does not belong in the text. The margin in the American Standard Version says, "Some ancient authorities insert, wholly or in part, verse 37." According to Alford, all our most ancient authorities omit it. It is not found in the Vatican, Sinzitic or Alexandrian manuscripts. "The Living Oracles," the Alexander Campbell translation, omits the verse and lists it among the spurious texts.

With all this evidence against Acts 8:37, are we justified in asking a person to openly confess his faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God before baptizing him? Yes, we shall see that other passages require confession of Christ. Brother H. Leo Boles told of baptizing some people once and when he finished a man walked up and said, "I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God and I want to be baptized too." Brother Boles baptized him and when he came out of the water a brother came up to him very disturbed and said, Brother Boles, you forgot to take that man's confession!" Brother Boles replied, "He did not forget to make it." The brother seemed to think the plan of salvation required the preacher to ask a question and the sinner to confess his faith in response to the preacher's question. Of course, that idea was based on Acts 8:37.

The scriptures show that a person must openly declare himself to be a believer in Christ -- He must confess Christ. During Jesus' personal ministry, "even of the rulers many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the glory that is of men more than the glory that is of

("The Confession" continued)
God." (John 12: 42, 43). That preference for the glory of men keeps many from confessing Christ today. That kind of belief will not bring salvation. Jesus said, Every one therefore who shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father who is in heaven." (Matt. 10:32, 33).

A sinner must believe in Christ before he can be baptized scripturally (Mark 16:16) and that faith must be confessed, "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Rom. 10:10). The context of this verse emphasizes this truth still further.

Jesus asked the apostles to confess Him. Peter was spokesman for the group when he said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. (Matt. 16:16). This faith is essential to discipleship and Jesus requires us to confess it. Timothy "did confess the good confession in the sight of many witnesses" (I Tim. 6:12). Jesus Himself "witnessed the good confession" before Pontius Pilate (I Tim. 6:13). Jesus is the foundation of the church (I Cor. 3:11) because He is the Son of God (Matt. 16:16-18). That is the cardinal point of Christian faith -- Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. If a person truly believes that he believes Christ's word is true, that His commandments must be obeyed, that His promises are sure. Those who believe that have the attitude of Saul of Tarsus when he became convinced of this truth. Saul said, "What shall I do Lord?" (Acts 22:10). He addressed as "Lord" the one he had persecuted. He was transferring his allegiance to Christ as the complete Ruler of his life because he believed Him to be the Son of God.

What is the significance of confessing Jesus to be the Son of God? It means Jesus has gained another willing subject and eager follower who will hear His voice and not others. The Christians entire life is an open confession that he believes Jesus to be the Son of God. His confession at the time he becomes a Christian is only the beginning of his confession of Christ. His life glorifies Christ because others can see the practical result of faith in the Son of God. If I am true to my faith in Jesus as the Son of God I cannot be deceived into thinking the way of the world is better than His way. I can be expected to be found standing for the Lord when the lines are drawn between right and wrong.

"Who is on the Lord's side? (Exodus 32:26.) We have declared ourselves. Let us be true to that good confession!!

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TEEN TOPICS

Those who attended the Carolina Bible Camp this year will be interested to know of the progress of Howard Haynes. Howard, the boy who received a broken collar bone and a serious head injury when he fell from his bunk while asleep, was released from the hospital August, 30th. He has made a most remarkable recovery and was able to start back to school Sept. 14th.

The Haynes family has asked that mention be made of their deep gratitude for all the acts of kindness, prayers and concern that was shown by people from all over the Carolinas. Many prayers have been sent to the Father's throne in Howard's behalf. Those who have prayed these prayers will now also want to thank God for his recovery. ---Carl Lancaster--

BAPTISM

by ROBERT H. BUNTING
Orangeburg, South Carolina

For centuries the subject of baptism has been the center of a great deal of controversy. This controversy and misunderstanding is not the fault of God, but of man. God's word can be understood if man is willing to approach the word with an humble desire to know the truth (Eph. 3:3-5; 5:17; I Cor. 3:18). Since the Bible can be understood, it follows that baptism can be understood for it is a Bible subject. With this in mind, let us turn to the Bible for a consideration of baptism.

WHAT IS BAPTISM? In the first place, it should be recognized that baptism is a burial in water. Romans 6:4 declares we are "buried with" Christ "by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Sprinkling or pouring water upon a person is not baptism, but a substitute.

Baptism is a command of Christ. The apostles of Christ had been told to teach men to "observe all things" the Lord commanded (Matt. 28: 19, 20), and Jesus had commanded baptism (Mark 16:16). That is the reason Peter, laboring under the guidance of the Holy Spirit "commanded" the household of Cornelius to be baptized (Acts 10:48).

Furthermore, as a command baptism is a part of the gospel. Christ said "preach the gospel (Mark 16:15." He also said to "teach . . . whatsoever I have commanded . . ." (Matt. 28). The preaching of the gospel includes the preaching of what Christ has commanded. Since baptism is a command of Christ, it is a part of the gospel - the doctrine of Christ. When Philip preached Christ (Acts 8:5), men were baptized (Acts 8:12). The fact that baptism is a command, implies it is applicable only to those capable of obeying. Infants do not have the will to obey and hence are not proper subjects of baptism. Those who obey this command of baptism are persons who have been taught. (Matt. 28:18-20), who believe (Mark 16:16) and have repented (Acts 2: 38). Infants do not meet these requirements.

WHAT ARE THE PROMISES ATTACHED TO BAPTISM? Certain promises are granted to those who in faith obey the Lord's command to be baptized. For example, we are told one is "baptized into Christ" (Gal. 3:27) and thus puts on Christ. Peter declares baptism is "For the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38), and "saves us" (I Peter 3:21). The apostle Paul says we arise from the waters of baptism to "walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). These promises are not granted before baptism, but upon the condition of obedience in baptism.

WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM? The importance of baptism can be seen in the results of the act. We have already seen that baptism places one in Christ (Gal. 3:27). If we can see the necessity of baptism. All will concede that the necessity of being in Christ is brought out plainly in the New Testament. Equally plain is the fact that baptism is vital, for it is by baptism that we get into Christ.

Some of the blessings obtained by those in Christ are redemption (Eph. 1:7), the new birth (2 Cor. 5:17), salvation (2 Tim. 2:10), and all spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3). In addition to these blessings in Christ, we have evidence of the importance of being in Christ in the second chap-

("Baptism" continued)
ter of Ephesians. Paul says without Christ we are 'aliens' and 'strangers', having 'no hope' and being 'without God', (Eph. 2:12). In the next verse he describes the same Gentiles and gives a different picture. "But now, in Christ Jesus, ye who sometime were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. . . . Now, therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;" (Eph. 2:13, 19). From this we see the absolute necessity of being in Christ, for out of Christ we are strangers and without God. In Christ, however, we are "No more strangers" but are reconciled to God.

Since being in Christ is essential, baptism is also essential for baptism puts us "into Christ" (Gal. 3:27). It is no wonder the Ethiopian requested baptism after hearing Philip preach Christ (Acts 8:35-38) After understanding the Bible facts concerning the importance of this subject, we are not surprised at finding Peter "commanding" the household of Cornelius to be baptized in the name of the Lord.

Christ told his disciples to preach, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16) Belief and baptism are the conditions upon which God will forgive sin. Man cannot be saved until he complies with these conditions. Have YOU been baptized for the remission of YOUR sins?

"ATTENTION"

If you have failed to receive your recent copy of the "Messenger" and/or if you have moved or will move in the near future, please be sure to send us your new address.

OUR NEEDS . .

"A SUCCINCT SKETCH OF THE CHURCH IN THE SENCLAND"



BY Noyles E. Sewell,
Wilmington, N. C.

Southeast North Carolina, oft referred to in print as Sencland, is one of the most barren areas in the South for New Testament Christianity. In fact, there are many areas overseas where the church of the Lord is numerically stronger. In an area roughly equal to that of the state of New Jersey, we find two full-time gospel preachers, three white and one colored meeting houses, and less than 200 Christians.

In this article we will give brief notice to each congregation:

WILMINGTON - W. S. Long held a tent meeting here in 1924, baptizing several. The new converts held services in the Junior Order hall for several years, but

"Our Needs" (continued)
without the help of a preacher no progress was shown. About 1929, Bro. Ledford moved to Wilmington from Newport, N. C. and stayed for several years, during which time a small concrete block building was erected. O. P. Baird moved to Wilmington in 1937 for a three year stay, returning in 1949 to stay until 1953. During his second stay a very adequate and attractive brick building was constructed on a corner lot in a respectable middle-class section of the city. Other preachers in Wilmington have been B. E. Hayden, Dave Hearn, O. L. Castleberry, J. W. Davis, John Hurt and the writer. Meetings have been conducted by such outstanding speakers as Daniel Harless, S. H. Hall, Elam Kuykendall, C. L. Overturf, James E. Laird, John D. Cox, C. W. Bradley, Joe Goodspeed and Dabney Phillips.

The progress of the cause of Christ in Wilmington has been slow. We have hardly scratched the surface. Thousands have never heard of our plea for a return to New Testament Christianity. Like the beloved apostle, we are aware of a great door of opportunity, (I Cor. 16:9) but, like Paul, we also recognize that there are many adversaries. The traditional religions are strong, as might be expected in an old historical city. The proximity of the beach lends an atmosphere of worldliness to Wilmington that is hard to overcome. Perhaps this helps to account for the high spiritual mortality rate among converts. There has also been a lack of permanency on the part of the membership which has held back the progress of the church. But with all of the hindrances, obstacles and adversaries, some small progress has yet been made. During the past year we have added 22 to our membership, which now numbers 50. We have secured the Herald of Truth television series for the local TV station, and have purchased and put into operation a church bus. With all of the past disappointments and present difficulties, we yet feel that the prospects for future growth are unlimited. We boldly appropriate to ourselves the message of the Lord originally spoken to Paul, and recorded in Acts 18:9-10 - "I am with thee . . . for I have much people in that city." May God help us to be equal to our great opportunities.

JACKSONVILLE - Only a few miles from Camp LeJeune, one of the largest of the Marine Corps bases, we find the largest congregation in this area, although only 7 years old. In 1952 a group of Marines began holding New Testament worship services in one of the base chapels. After a run-in with the chaplain they were forced to move to a tool shed to hold their services. They moved next to the American Legion building and within two years had bought, and paid for 2 lots in the city of Jacksonville, and bought, moved, and renovated an old denominational building. Last year new class rooms and a new auditorium were added. The congregation continues to grow and attendance averages around 150. They are self supporting. Preachers who have worked with this congregation are M. F. Norwood, A. B. Carroll and Jim Waldron. On August 16, 1959, Bro. James L. Frazier moved to Jacksonville to labor with this congregation.

CLARENDON - This congregation, 50 miles west of Wilmington in Columbus county, was begun as a result of a meeting held in that community by Bro. Sam Binkley about 1949. The Boyd Cribb family now living in Charlotte, were very helpful in beginning this work, also Bro. Nance, who remained with the congregation as the first preacher.

A tobacco barn was remodled into a suitable building and is still in use. Preaching has been supplied through the years by the

"Our Needs" (continued)
Fayetteville and Rockingham brethren. The congregation has never been able to support a full-time preacher. Gospel meetings have been held by Bobby Thompson, Frank Milton, Paul Faulkner, Newton Gribble, and Paul T. Summ. Present membership, active, about 12.

WHITEVILLE - Youngest congregation in this area, has been meeting about eleven months. In October of last year a tent meeting was held in Whiteville with Bill Respess doing the preaching and this writer conducting the singing. The meeting was intended to be the kick-off effort in establishing the church in Whiteville and was held with the full counsel, cooperation and support of the Clarendon congregation, 15 miles away. During the meeting a suitable place for worship was found in the City Recreation Center and worship services were begun there the first Lord's day after the meeting closed. This writer assumed the responsibility of providing preaching for the new work and has been assisted, from time to time, by other preachers within driving distance. Gerald Wear, radio announcer in nearby Elizabethtown, has provided the preaching for the past few months but will enter David Lipscomb college in September. Recently, the local radio station WENC, Whiteville, (1220 kc), scheduled the series "The Gospel in Sermon and Song", produced by the Charlotte Ave. congregation of Nashville, Tenn. The program is being broadcast at 1:45 P. M. each Sunday. The congregation receives outside support from Locust Grove, near Russelville, Ky., and a congregation in Columbus, Ohio. The membership in Whiteville numbers about 15 and there is now over $1000 in the treasury. The brethren there are looking for a suitable lot upon which to build in the future, realizing that a building of their own is indispensable to proper growth. The greatest need is a gospel preacher who will move to Whiteville and work full time in the Lord's work.

BELFORK - One colored congregation exists in this area. The Belfork congregation in Jacksonville is now 6 years old, and have been in their own building about one year. This work is the result of the labors of Bro. A. J. Lyons who continued with them from the beginning. In July, Bro. Lyons resigned the work in Belfork and is presently working with a newly started colored congregation at Havelock, N. C. adjacent to Cherry Point Marine station. The Havelock work is under the oversight of the Newport elders. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made in the past to establish a colored church in Wilmington and another effort this time successful, is planned for the spring of 1960. Quincy Carter of Statesville will work with us in a tent meeting of at least four weeks duration, the Lord willing.

The needs of this section as a whole are little different from the needs of the other areas of the Carolinas, viz., more men and more money. When opportunities present, we should not be hesitant to place these needs before those who are in a position to help. But, with or without additional help, the Carolinas can be, and will be, filled with the doctrine of Christ, when the church now existing becomes filled with the evangelistic fervor of the first century, and begins to stir itself for the salvation of souls.

"It's not what you'd do with millions,
if riches e'er became your lot;
It's what your're doing right now,
with the dollar and quarter you've got."

"A very small river will carry a lot of water to the sea -- if it keeps running."

---selected------

Women's Column

"FIRST THINGS FIRST"



by Mrs. Minnie Cagle

In the 10th chapter of Luke it tells of Jesus entering into a village where a woman named Martha received him into her house. Martha had a sister, Mary, who sat at Jesus feet to hear his words. Being distracted with much serving, Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10: 40-42.

It wasn't wrong for Martha to do her housework and there had to be food. In Ecclesiastes 3:1, it says that there is a time for all things. This was not the time for serving. Jesus wanted Martha to hear his words. This was a time to partake of the bread of life. She was not as eager to hear his teaching as she was in serving him - she wanted to entertain Jesus. He told her that Mary had chosen the good part which could not be taken away from her - she wanted to set at His feet and hear his words. Is this not a lesson for us? Do we want to sit at Jesus feet; or had we rather stay home and clean house and prepare a fine dinner?

Forty years ago I felt that way. I thought if I got my husband and children off to church on Sunday, I had done my duty. But thirty-five years ago I heard the truth. I learned that my husband and my children could not serve God for me.

Someday we can sit at Jesus feet for we shall see him face to face. Will Jesus say to us, what he said to Martha? Are we more concerned with the things of this world that will perish? Jesus did not talk hard to Martha for he wanted her to understand the importance of the bread of life and what it would mean to her.

Mary had chosen to set at his feet. Not many people in that day wanted to sit at Jesus feet or hear his words. They wanted to follow Him for the loaves and fishes - something to satisfy the fleshly body.

I feel we would all be stronger and more able to do more work if we would take an increased amount of spiritual food. We would be able to break the bread of life to our children. We must learn to put first things FIRST!

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Woman's section will be a monthly feature of this paper! This month's article by Sis. Cagle (or "Mama" as she is known by her friends) is the first. Sis. Cagle has been a member of the church for thirty-five years & has five children who are all members of the church. She is said by her friends to be the living example of faith, trust in the living God, and of humility.

NEW BUILDING PROGRAM

by James McDonald, Jr.
Union, South Carolina

The congregation meeting in Union, S. C. is the oldest in South Carolina, having been started by Thomas Burton in 1918. This congregation has through the years cooperated in the establishement of other congregations in its section. On one occasion the building in Union was mortgaged that the building at Moore might be built. Other examples of the generous spirit of the Union church could be noted.

Brethren in the Carolinas will be happy, we are sure, to learn of the extended building program of this congregation. With the present building failing to meet the needs of a growing congregation, plans are underway to build a new meeting house soon.

In May a lot was bought in a most desireable location for $12,500.00. Plans call for the erection of two units on this lot with ample parking facilities and a plot reserved for a preacher's home site. The first unit of construction will consist of around eirght classrooms, nursery and auditorium seating 200. This unit will be full heated and air conditioned. It is to be designed to provide facilities for the immediate future. When the second unit is constructed, an auditorium seating from 400 to 600, this first unit will be converted into classrooms entirely.

The building program calls for an average weekly contribution of $200 by the first of the year, at which time building bonds will be issued in the amount of $35,000. If the bond selling drive moves along on schedule, the church hopes to begin construction of its first unit by June 1, 1960.

Other phases of the work in Union consists of a Dial-A-Devotion, co-sponsering of the Herald of Truth on Channel 13, weekly hospital visitation by the ladies of the church who pass out get-well cards which contain a variety of gospel tracts, and many others. The church held its most successful VBS in August with a total enrollment of 145. Also in August the average morning worship service attendance was 84 (not a record) with an average weekly contribution of $187.25 (a record) including a special fifth Sunday contribution for the Herald of Truth. The congregation is exceeding its $150.00 a week budget for 1959. As already stated the 1960 budget has been set at $200.00 weekly.

There are three elders of the Union congregation. They are J. C. Williamson, Jesse Ham, Sr. and Walter Akers. Serving as Evangelist is James S. McDonald, Jr. It is our prayer that the accomplishments of this church in the past will be greatly overshadowed by its work for the Lord in the future.

"WHAT THEY ARE SAYING....."

The members of the church here enjoy the "Messenger" and so do I. We appreciate the time and talent that you men are investing in making this service available. It is doing and will continue to do a lot of good for the church in the Carolinas, I believe. I am sure you fellows receive a lot of criticism as every worthwhile endeavor always attracts such. However, for every criticism that is voiced there are dozens of us who appreciate and profit by your efforts although we may not voice our feeling as freely as the critics! Keep up the good work!

NEWS

TRYON, N. C., P. O. Box 1055
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist.

The church in Tryon is interested in securing a preacher to begin work here January 1st. There are thirty-five members. They own an attractive church building in a good location. A weekly radio program is conducted, the morning worship is broadcast every four weeks and Bible correspondence courses are offered to the public. A large portion of the preacher's support is furnished by churches in other places. Anyone interested should write to the church at the above address.

During July one was baptized and one restored. The ten-day V. B. S. closed the first week in August. 96 students enrolled and a staff of 10 were present, making a total of 106. 66 of the students enrolled were from homes of non-members.

James Woodroof, West Columbia, S. C. is scheduled to do the preaching in a meeting here October 19-27th. A daily radio program is scheduled during the meeting. Services nightly at 7:30 P. M.

SENECA, S. C., (White)
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

With the return of many of our summer absentees, the work here is "looking up". One of the high points of this time of the year, with the Seneca church, is the resumption of the Bible class at Clemson college on Wednesday nights. We have the names of some 15 young men who are attending school this semester at Clemson who are either members of the church of Christ, or the Disciples of Christ. We are especially endeavoring to attract the latter group into our services on a regular basis, and have met with some success, since they do not have a congregation anywhere nearby. If you know of a young man in Clemson, please encourage him to attend our Bible classes and worship services. Contribution and attendance continues to sustain an improvement over last year, for which we are thankful. Our fall meeting, featuring different speakers each night, will come to a close on Oct. 4th.

SENECA, S. C. (Colored)
Ernest D. Butler, Evangelist

Construction continues on our new building. The congregation met in our new edifice on the first Sunday in September. The windows have been installed, the floor has been laid, the pulpit has been installed and the remaining major problem is to ceil the space overhead. Chairs are available from the school board, but pulpit furniture and other necessary items of equipment are yet lacking.

Brethren in neighboring white congregations, as well as members from the local church, have given much assistance to our efforts here. We appreciate every consideration that has been shown to us, and earnestly pray for the continued progress of the cause, both here and elsewhere.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C., box 27
Joe Riggs, Evangelist.

Recently I had a new and enjoyable experience. My two weeks at the Carolina Bible Camp was a new thing for me. It was my first time to be connected in any way with a summer camp of any kind. I can say that they were both enjoyable and profitable to me. I express my appreciation to those responsible for my invitation to have a part in it.

(Rockingham, N. C. report cont.)
August 9 was a record breaker here. For the 11 o'clock service we had 95 present. I am told that this was the largest crowd to ever attend a worship service here. We have seen the interest growing in this community, and only hope and pray that it will continue to do so. Vacations over, children in school, and everyone is about settled down once more. We are planning to revive our cottage meetings soon, and are looking forward to big things in the kingdom of our Lord.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist.

We had the best preaching we have ever heard at Moore in our last meeting. We used different speakers every night. With these great men in the Carolinas we can look for a greater growth of the church, than ever before. One was baptized in August. Pray for the work here.

CHESTER, S. C., 135 Saluda Street
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist.

A religious census was taken in September of communities near our church property. A new cottage meeting series was begun in a non-member home and 20 were present for the initial meeting. Earle West, Cleveland, Ohio, will preach for us in our fall meeting - Nov. 1-8. We are encouraged by the number of local non-members that are attending our services. September should be our best month attendance wise since the church began in Chester. I would like to encourage the Carolina preachers to use the "Messenger" in personal work.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Augusta Road
Burl Curtis, Evangelist.

We had one baptism and one restoration here in September. The congregation is looking forward to having Bro. and Sis. Carl Lancaster working with them beginning Jan. 1, 1960. I will be working with a new congregation in the Northeast section of Greenville. I will write a report about this next month.

STATESVILLE, N. C., 433 E. Broad St.
Harold Scott, Evangelist.

One was baptized Sept. 9. We are enjoying the work very much during our first month here. Bro. Sewell Hall of Camden will hold our fall meeting in October.

GASTONIA, N. C.,
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist.

The church here just recently began regular help to work outside of Gastonia. It is small in amount, but it is a beginning. We achieved our goal of 125 at 11 a. m. worship today, Sept. 13. We have done it several times, but never consistently.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Buncombe Road
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

We had a good singing Sept. 6 with ten congregations represented. Two restored and two baptized during Sept. Our fall meeting will be Oct. 4-11 with Newton Gribble, Selma, Ala.; 7:30 each night.

DUNCAN, S. C.
M. S. Parker, Evangelist.

The first Lord's day in Sept. was a good day here. Attendance: Bible study-75; morning worship -80; evening worship-76; contribution -$134.75; mid-week Bible study -70. The small margin in these attendance records shows an indication of growth here. When the members of the Lord's church are converted so they will put Christ first, then we can encourage those outside to follow Him. Our fall meeting - Sept. 30-Oct. 11 with Bro. Roy Burgess, Woodbury, Tenn. will be

(Duncan, S. C. report cont.)
held nightly at 7:30 p. m. Each one has a special invitation to come hear this capable, humble, yet firm servant of the Lord.

WILMINGTON, N. C. 215 S. 17th St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist.

Our bus brought in a total of 27 for the morning service Sept. 13. Our attendance on the previous Sunday 103 with 82 on this date. Since last report in July we have had ten additions making a total of 17 for this year. Bro. Sewell will hold a meeting here on Oct. 19th. Plans are being made for a meeting in Whiteville, N. C. in Nov. with Bro. C. B. Laws of Nashville, Tenn. preaching. Bro. Sewell is presently preaching in Whiteville each Sunday afternoon.

FLORENCE, S. C., 618 Gregg Ave.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist.

Our membership now stands higher than ever before in the congregation's history. We are preparing for our meeting Oct. 18-25 with John Payne, Alexander City, Alabama preaching. All are invited to the singing here on Oct. 18th at 3:00 P. M. Bro. Jackson has free time in 1960 to preach in a meeting within the Carolinas for a congregation that cannot support a man.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C., N. Main St.
W. G. Gantt, Evangelist

With the spirit that exist and the interest manifested by the brethren and also visitors indicates that the work here is on the move. The attendance continues to grow. Our Wed. evening Bible study has grown from 60 to 90 in the past ten weeks. The contributions have held up very well considering the vacation months when many were away. Thus far this year, we have an average of $190. 23 per Sunday. Five nice road signs are now painted and ready to be erected on the five highways leading through Mocksville. Three weeks ago we began construction of a three bedroom with carport and full basement, brick house on a beautiful lot just behind the church building. Our fall meeting will be Oct. 4-9 with services each night at 7:30 P. M. and the speaker will be Bro. Dabney Phillips.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Judson
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

This past month we had one baptism and one confession of wrong with one placing membership. A gospel meeting is planned with Bro. Clyde Hale, Nashville, Tenn. doing the preaching during the month of October. No definite date as yet.

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C., 1201 Oakland
A. S. Chambers, Evangelist.

The church here has recently secured Bro. A. S. Chambers from Huntsville, Alabama to labor with us.

The attendance and interest are good. The outlook for labor and love in the Lord's cause is bright. We ask an interest in the prayers of the brethren everywhere.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Vance St.
Waymon Love, Evangelist.

One was baptized, Sunday, Aug. 30. He was an Episcopalian prior to that had been raised a Catholic. We are sending financial help, this month, to Singapore, Malaya. In the last few months individuals here have had a part in teaching the truth through the "Gospel Press" and helped Bro. L. E. Crawford in his return to preach the gospel in Russia.

News reports continued on next page!

GEORGETOWN, S. C., P. O. Box 250
Johnny C. Sewell, Evangelist.

So far this year 17 have been baptized and 2 restored in Georgetown. The present membership stands at 51. Prospects for continued growth appear very good. The 2nd V. B. S. in the congregations's history was conducted July 26-31. 181 attended the last session. The vast majority of these came from non-Christian homes. Before this V. B. S. the largest attendance for any previous service was 94, reached during the Bible school of 1958. Each day this year the attendance surpassed the record attendance of last year.

During this same period, a series of meetings was conducted, which we believe to be the most successful ever conducted here from many viewpoints. Glenn Killom, Jacksonville, Florida did the preaching and Ronald Oliphant, a student at David Lipscomb College, directed the singing. During the meeting 4 were baptized and two restored.

The construction of 5 classrooms and the remodeling of the original building to allow for a nursery, a classroom and an auditorium to seat 130 is nearing completion. New seating has been installed and central heating, etc. will complete the work. This desparately needed addition to the building has been made possible by the grace of God through liberal contributions of congregations in the Nashville and middle Tennessee area. A loan from a South Carolina insurance company, after the construction was well along, enabled us to bring construction to a successful conclusion.

The congregation is seeking to reach the self-supporting status as soon as possible as is evidenced by the increased local contributions. During August of 1958 the contributions averaged $49 per Sunday. So far this month the contributions have averaged $100 per Sunday. The Wingate congregation in Nashville is supporting Bro. Sewell full-time in this work.

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NEW SERVICE!!

Upon the suggestion of several congregations, the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH, after much thought and consideration has decided to offer the following service to the churches in North and South Carolina. Compile and send to us a mailing list, complete with name and address of each person that you wish to have receive the "Messenger" each month. We will, then, mail out one copy each month to the names on your list. The cost for this service will be same as the bundle rates, $ /10 per copy plus $ .02 per copy for additional postage and handling. We will not, however, be able to handle any list of lesser amounts than twenty-five (25).

AVAIL YOURSELVES OF THIS SERVICE!

TEACHING THE WAY:

BEFORE YOUR CHILD HAS COME TO
SEVEN
TEACH HIM WELL THE WAY TO
HEAVEN:

BETTER STILL, THE TRUTH WILL
THRIVE,
IF HE KNOWS IT WHEN HE IS
FIVE:

BEST OF ALL IF AT YOUR KNEE,
HE LEARNS IT WHEN HE IS ONLY
THREE.

---Author unknown---

PLAN NOW !

To Attend A Series Of Gospel Meetings



November 1 -- 8

AT THE

Church of Christ

135 SALUDA ST.

CHESTER, S. C

GUEST SPEAKER

EARLE WEST

CLEVELAND, OHIO

SERVICES

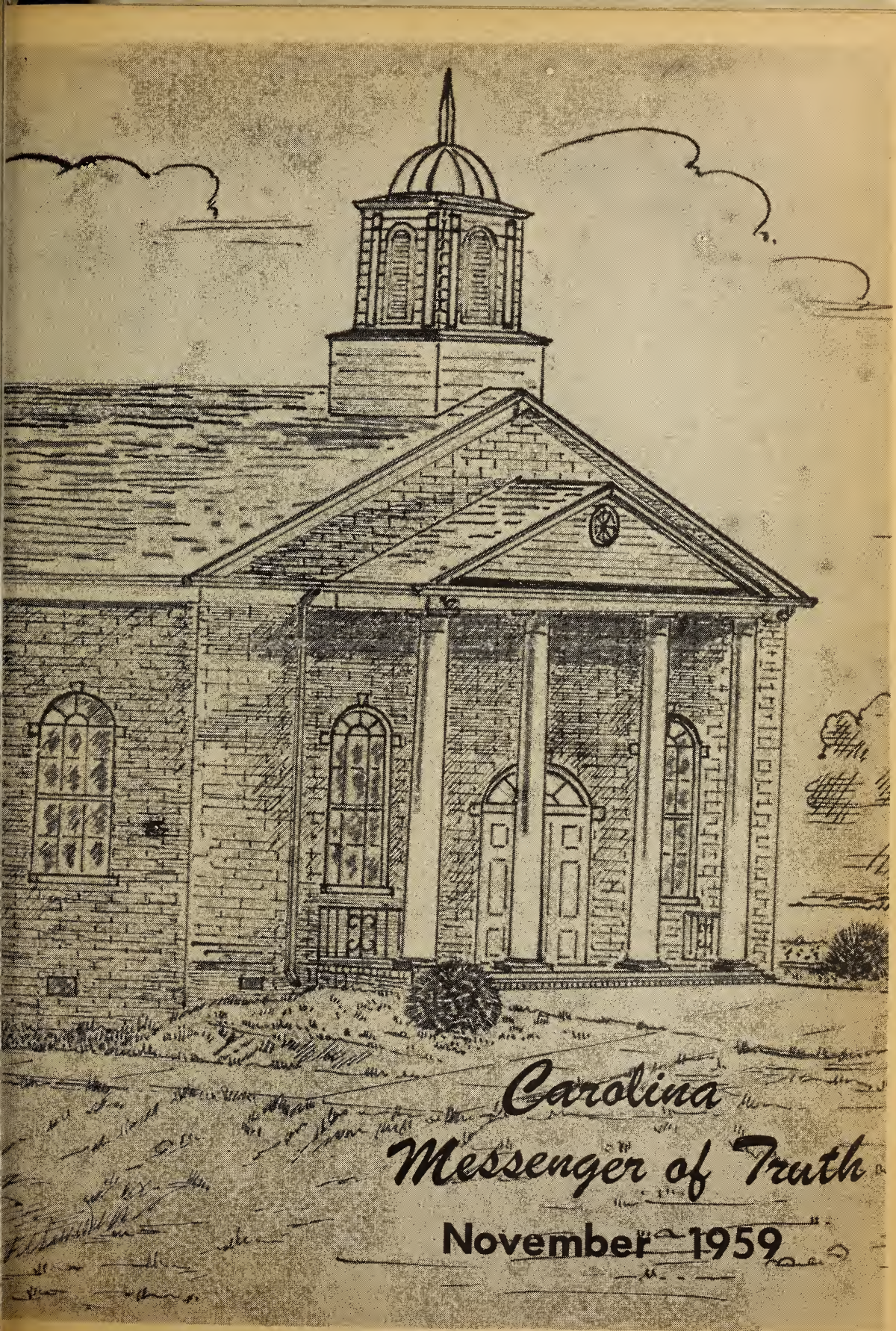
SUNDAY 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

WEEK DAYS 7:45 P. M.

The Public Is Cordially Invited

DID YOU KNOW ?

The above advertisement is a sample of what you can have! You can advertise any church work such as meetings, schedule of services, etc. at a small cost of $8.50 per half page and $12.00 per full page with the exception of the back page which will be offered on a first come,first serve basis at $10.00 per half page and $15.00 per full page. Advertise your next meeting in this manner and order enough copies of the paper at $ .10 per copy to use in your personal work preceeding and during the meeting!! Remember the "Messenger" goes to all parts of the Carolinas to both Christians and Non-Christians. It is also distributed in parts of Georgia and Tenn. Put your request for this service in the next mail. You won't regret it!!



Carolina Messenger of Truth

November 1959

2201 NEW BUNCOMBE ROAD . GREENVILLE, S.C.

RADIO AND TELEVISION GUIDE

"SUNDAY"

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia, S. C.	7:30 p. m.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C.	2:30 p. m.
WBTW, Chl. 8, Florence	11:30 p. m.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 p. m.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington	noon
WJMX	2:30 p. m.
WKIX	2:30 p. m.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 p. m.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 a. m.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 p. m.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 p. m.
WGNT, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 p. m.
WHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WRRZ, Clinton, N. C.	2:30 p. m.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham, N. C.	9:15 a. m.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 a. m.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380-	9:15 a. m.
WHIP, Mooresville, N. C.	4:30 p. m.
WACA, 1590	8:40 a. m.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 a. m.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.	9:30 a. m.
WBAW, 740, Barnewell, S. C.	10:00 a. m.
WGBR, Goldsboro, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WENC, 1240, Whiteville, N.C.	1:45 p. m.

"TUESDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.

"THURSDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.
WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.	11:45 A. M.

"SATURDAY"

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.

"MONDAY-FRIDAY"

WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

We have no way of knowing if the radio and television listings herein are correct, or if they are complete unless we hear from yo

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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The Gift Of The Holy Spirit



O. P. Baird
Park St. congregation
Columbia, S. C.

The gift of the Holy Spirit is promised to those who repent and are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. The promise is to "as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him" (Acts 2:38, 39). The Holy Spirit is received by those who believe on Christ (John 7:39) and obey Him (Acts 4: 32). The Holy Spirit dwells in the children of God (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16; 11 Tim. 1:14). "Or know ye not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have from God?" (1 Cor. 6:19).

The Old Testament prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit (11 Pet. 1:21). The Spirit of Christ was in them (11 Pet. 1:11). Though the Holy Spirit was active in certain ones before Christ, the "gift of the Holy Spirit" which we receive from Christ was only a glorious promise back then. The promise was made in the Old Testament (Joel 2:28-32). It was later made by John the Baptist (Matt. 3:11) and by Jesus (John 7:37-39, 14:23-26; 16:7-15; Acts 1:8). It could not be fulfilled until Jesus had been glorified and the promise began to be fulfilled on the day (Acts 2:14-21).

The Holy Spirit was with the apostles before Jesus was crucified but Jesus promised that He would later dwell in them (John 14:17). He dwells in us. How we should rejoice for this wonderful gift! This gift from God is an earnest that we might know that all of His eternal blessings are sure (Eph. 1:13,14; 11 Cor. 1:22; 5:5).

Christ dwells in our hearts through faith (Eph. 3:17). We become the children of God by faith (Gal. 3:26) and we walk by faith as His children (11 Cor. 5:7). Faith comes by hearing the word of God (Rom. 10:17). This is in agreement with the promise of Jesus that He and His Father would come and make their abode with those who keep His word (John 14:23). The divine presence is in the person of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is called "the Spirit of God" and "the Spirit of Christ" and when the Holy Spirit is dwelling in us Christ is there (Rom. 8:9, 10).

The gift of the Holy Spirit was to all who obeyed the gospel, but He never gave miraculous gifts or powers to all in whom He dwelt (1 Cor. 12:7-11, 28-30). Those miraculous gifts were imparted by the laying on of the apostles' hands (Acts 8: 18; Rom. 1:11). Those powers were to confirm the word which was then being re-

NEW CONGREGATION IN GREENVILLE AREA

Burl Curtis, editor
Augusta Rd. congregation
Greenville, S. C.

Greenville County, South Carolina, now has a population of approximately 200,000. Needing 24 self-supporting congregations with at least one full-time worker with each congregation, we have at present only four-three white and one colored-with three full-time preachers. With the Lord as our helper, we plan to take a step in the right direction January 1, 1960 and establish a new congregation in the northeast section of the county.

The new congregation will be known as the Northeast church of Christ and will serve the suburban area of Northeast Greenville and the smaller towns of Paris, Taylors, and Greer. It is estimated that there are about 50,000 people in that area with no congregation.

This plan is not new. For several years members of the church have often talked about the need of more congregations in Greenville County. This interest became more acute near the end of 1958 when Augusta Road, the newest congregation, became self-supporting. A few families let it be known that they were willing to go. Early in 1959 I decided to leave Augusta Road and work with the new congregation and I made a public announcement of my intentions in May 1959.

From the beginning, God has blessed this effort. An acre lot was purchased April 1 and is available to the Northeast congregation to build if they desire. Bro. Carl Lancaster has already agreed to work with the Augusta Road congregation. A duplicating machine, song books and Bibles have already been donated. We are now making arrangements for a suitable meeting place, seats, pulpit stand, register boards, and communion set and table.

I am very happy to see this congregation start for a number of reasons. In the last five years, by "swarming" we have seen (1) the contribution and attendance double, (2) two very fine buildings constructed, (3) two full-time preachers added to the work force, (4) more meetings held each year, more public leaders developed, more Bible class teachers and song leaders trained and used, (5) and a greater spirit of sacrifice and personal responsibility manifested. If the world stands, there is no reason why this can not continue and even be intensified.

Please pray for this work and visit us when you have opportunity. A small amount of "outside support" has already been promised and I hope to be able to raise enough to give full time to the work.

We are going into this work relying upon the Lord and believing that it is according to His will and with the earnest expectation that it will hasten the growth of the "cause of Christ" in this county.

Cover Photo

The cover picture is the building of the Buncombe Road church of Christ, Greenville, S. C. from a pencil sketch by J. W. Davis, Sitka, Alaska.

FALLING AWAY

Bob Rigdon
Sylva, N. C.

The title of this article could just as easily be, "Can one be saved and then lost eternally" or "Can one fall from grace?"

The Bible teaches that one can be saved and then be lost eternally. When all the Bible is read this statement harmonizes with all of it. There are two extremes to this question. One extreme says: "It is impossible to sin so as to be lost after once being saved". This extreme usually quotes 1 Jno. 3:9, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." The other extreme says, "We can sin all we want to for where sin abounds grace does much more abound (Rom. 5:20).

If a person would read only the above without reading all that the Bible teaches on this subject, he might be made to believe one extreme or the other.

The Bible teaches we are to do all within our power to keep pure and to keep from sinning, yet the best in us falls short and we all sin. Forgiveness for the Christian can be had by repenting and praying (Acts 8:13-23) and confessing our sins (1 Jno. 1:8; 2:1). In Acts 8 you read of Simon becoming a Christian. (v. 13). You then read of Simon sinning (vs. 18,19). You then read of him being commanded to repent of it and pray for forgiveness (vs. 22, 23). In First John 1:8 and 2:1 you read of the Apostle John writing to Christians and including himself he says, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, these things write I unto you that ye sin not, and if any man sin we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

Those of either extremes would do well to meditate on the above for it answers both. Also for those who teach we can keep on sinning and be saved regardless, let them read:

Romans 6:1, 2-"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid..."

Hebrews 6:4-6- "For if is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again to repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame."

Hebrews 10:26, 27-"For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgement and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries."

For those who believe once saved always saved or that it is impossible to be lost after being saved, read also:

Galations 5:4- "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace."

Hebrews 10:39-"But we are not of them who draw back into perdition..."

1 Peter 3:20-22-"For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Je-

Young People's Page



James S. Woodroof
West Columbia, S. C.

YOUNG PEOPLE; YOUNG CHRISTIANS, DON'T SMOKE! DON'T TAKE UP THE HABIT OF SMOKING.

Not long ago I was listening to an advertisement by a leading tobacco company. The advertisement was about their cigarettes. As I began thinking on the statements that were made, I realized that that particular ad was the truest and most accurate advertisement of cigarettes that I had ever heard. The main thought of their claim was that their cigarettes were made by a "costly blend of fine tobaccos". It is my firm conviction that cigarettes (and the like) are exactly that - a "costly blend" of tobaccos. The manufactures may well be able to stand his cost, but the high cost that a Christian must pay renders the cigarette a poor return for his investment. How costly is it to a Christian?

1. It Costs Money. This is the least cost of all. The cost of cigarettes to an average smoker is not, when compared to other things, of such excess as to render it sin. Though this is true, cigarettes do cost money. An average figure would put the cost at about $150.00 per year. That doesn't seem like very much in a way, and yet if there were thirty-five such members in a congregation, they would spend enough on tobacco to completely support a gospel preacher and his family. It would amount to more than $5,000.00 per year. That's pretty costly isn't it? And what congregation of any size does not have thirty-five or more who smoke? Yea, one thing thou lackest, 'Go and sell thy cigarettes and give to preach the gospel'.

2. It Costs You Your Health. It isn't necessary for me to quote statistics in this article. You've seen the statistics over and over again. Doctors, who care nothing about your body being a holy temple of God, bear witness that smoking hurts your health. If an unbeliever so testifies, it is time we sat up and took notice. God did not create tobacco to be used as a lining for the lungs of His people. A doctor friend of mine once told me that in disecting unclaimed bodies or in complete autopsy there is never any trouble in telling the smokers and non-smokers apart. The smoker's lungs were always covered and saturated with a dark brown substance, while the lungs of the non-smokers were always pink and clear. Smoking hinders the digestive processes, hardens the arteries, destroys vitamin C, affects the heart, and without and doubt is conducive to lung

(see page 9)

Women's Column

Mrs. Julian Dendy
Columbia, S. C.

I was asked to write this article about the beginning of the church in South Carolina but I can only tell of personal experiences. The two men who could give the real history of the first churches would be Bro. Tom Burton and Bro. Gibbs whose work at Union and Judson Mills had started small congregations several years before I learned of their work.

My husband, Julian, a native South Car - olinian, came to Grandbury, Texas on a visit to relatives and remained ten years. After we were married he felt the need to return to South Carolina to care for his parents who were getting feeble, so in 1918 we, with our month old son, moved to Greenville. After we became settled I began to enquire about the church with no results. Camp Sevier was located in Greenville with men in training from all parts of the country. In order to contact any member who might be located there, I ran advertisements in the Greenville papers for members, but had no answers. As far as I knew I was the only New Testament Christian in the state of South Carolina at that time.

In about a year and an half we moved to Seneca where we lived ten years. During that time I had Bro. R. C. Bell come hold a meeting. Having found a small group of Christian church members in Westminister we held our meeting there. As a result several were baptised, among them my husband and son, Julian, Jr., and several renounced the error in their beliefs. We met together for several years, until some moved away and others were drawn back into more popular groups. A family moved across the street from us, manager of Penney's store; they were young but faithful members of the church and we met together each Lord's Day until they were transferred. I came to realize that tho we had made spasmodic efforts to establish the church, the time had come when we had to have the church even if it meant leaving South Carolina. My husband was a babe in Christ and could be very little help. We were living in Anderson at the time I happened to see a little notice in the Gospel Advocate requesting used song books for the group at Judson Mill. I immediately wrote them and I shall always be grateful to Bro. H. Dodson, who the very next day, drove forty miles to see us after doing eight hours work in the mill then having to rush back to tend his stock so he could go to prayer meeting that night. We attended regularly at Judson and learned to love and appreciate those good people.

We were transferred to Florida for a year, then to Charleston. There was no church but the first week we were there we placed a notice in the papers that the church of Christ would meet at 66 Smith Street, our home. There was just Julian, myself and son, but in several weeks Bro. and Sis. Claude Allison and two sons knocked on our door. They were looking for the church. Shortly afterward Bro. and Sis. Bowman with their seven children came looking for the church. My husband, being a good friend of the director of the YMCA, arranged to meet regularly there. They met there until they built their present building.

When we moved to Columbia a small group was meeting in a lodge hall. This group resulted in two churches, Pope St. and Shandon. While worshipping at Shandon we learned of a member living at Manning, Sis. Wooters, and with the help of others at Shandon we went down each Lord's day holding services in her home. This group resulted in the establishing of the church

BEGINNING OF CHURCH IN S. C.

at Sumter, Bro. R. D. Newton, Jr., and wife having settled there after his release from the army and with others located at Shaw field.

After six years in Columbia we returned to Greenville where Judson was helping establish a church in down-town Greenville. Bro. Dover, Bro. Moreland and others preached and assisted in every way they could. This is now the Buncombe Road church with a beautiful edifice.

Four years later we returned to Columbia where we have since lived. A small faithful group of Christians had been meeting in West Columbia for years. They owned a small building, a residence on Highway One, but when Bro. Floyd Wright, who was preaching for them, moved out of the state, the doors were locked and most of the members attended services at Pope St. West Columbia was a fast growing community with about 20,000 people to be reached. Julian and I talked things over with the original group and they decided to reopen that work and we remained with them for about six years, making appeals thru gospel papers, long distance calls and personal appearances for support. The Madison church became interested and undertook the support of the work which we all know is having a phenominal growth in interest and dedication, in members with one of the most beautiful and efficient buildings in the state.

Due to Julian's health we have returned to the Shandon church which is just around the corner from our home. In retrospect of the forty-one years we have lived in South Carolina, I bow humbly and in wonder and praise at the marvelous hand of God and his love and mercy extended to one who has made so many errors and mistakes and our hearts thrill at the prospect before us with so many capable and wonderful preachers who are laboring in our state now.

FALL AWAY

sus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to a true proverb; the dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."

One may ask then about 1 Jno. 3:9 quoted earlier. John did not mean it is impossible to sin for he wrote that we do sin in the same book (1 Jno. 1:8;2:1) also quoted in this article. What then does it mean? It means that we cannot afford to sin since we are Christians. This harmonizes with it all.

Yes we are to fight sin with all our being and not go out thinking we can sin all we want to and still be saved. But with John we have to admit we have sinned and like he said and like Peter commanded Simon, we must repent and pray and confess our sins to God. This is for the Christian. For the non-Christian they are to believe-Heb. 11:6; John 8:24, repent-Lk. 13:3, confess Jesus as Christ the Son of God-Matt. 10:32, 33, and be baptized for the remission of sins-Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:15, 16.

TRACT - Why Not Be Just A Christian? $4.00 per hundred. Order from Caro - lina Messenger of Truth.

COSTLY BLEND

cancer. Yes, it costs you your health. That is a "costly blend" isn't it? "Know ye not that you are a temple of God... If any man destroy the temple of God, him shall God destroy." 1 Cor. 3:16,17. "Or know you not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?" 1 Cor. 6:19.

3. It Costs Your Christian Influence. No Christian's influence is as great as it could and should be if he is addicted to nicotine. It has come to the place now that when you pull out your cigarettes you pull in your Christian light. Would to God that Christians would spend as much time "lighting" souls as they do "lighting" cigarettes. "Let your light so shine" was not given as instructions for overcoming a "nicotine" fit. The real "Thinking Man" today thinks that tobacco has no place in the life of a follower of Jesus. "What do you think about it, Sir?" "I think that every man ought to let Jesus make up his mind for him." "We take thought for things honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men." II Cor. 8:21. How strong would the preacher's influence be if he smoked? "Has anyone got a light?" You are seen as "lights" in the world, holding forth a Lucky Strike?" NO. "Holding forth the word of life." Phil. 2:15. Is your light shining?

4. It Costs Your Self-Respect. Not only do others respect you less, but you respect yourself less. In view of the medical findings today concerning cigarettes and cancer, a Christian cannot smoke without hurting his conscience, and thus lowering his respect for himself. And when you think about how important self respect is, you realize again that smoking is a "Costly Blend".

5. It May Cost You Your Soul. In view of all these things, for a Christian to persist in using tobacco, it could cost him his soul. It costs you these things: Money, health, influence, self respect. By what rhyme or reason do you think a Christian can throw away these things without losing his soul?

*Smoking is a "lust of the Flesh". "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. In any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the vain glory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." 1 Jno. 2:15-16. Yes, smoking is a lust of the flesh. "But" someone says, "Isn't eating also a lust of the flesh?" No, it isn't; because eating is a natural appetite given to us by God. But smoking is an unnatural lust started by man, and John says for Christians not to love such things. Do you love such things?

*Smoking is a "filthiness of the flesh". But Paul said, "Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." 11 Cor. 7:1

*Smoking is a bad example to children. And Jesus said, "Whosoever shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it is profitable for him that a great millstone be hanged about his neck, and that he should be sunk in the depth of the sea." Matt. 18:6.

*Smoking is useless, harmful, habit forming, expensive and a bad influence on the outsider, a bad example for children, hurtful to health, etc. Can you name a single good point? "Yes, it's fun." But so are a lot of things that a

COSTLY BLEND

Christian cannot engage in.

I saw another excellent cigarette ad. It claimed that the most important part of their particular cigarette was the one-quarter inch empty space between filter and lip. I agree whole heartedly, and if their cigarettes were made entirely of this "most important empty space" I myself might consider taking up the "habit".

Young Christians, all of the pleadings of God and the exhortings of man may never eliminate the use of tobacco by Christians of this present generation, but one sure way of completely wiping out that practice is found in this advice- Young Christians, Don't YOU Smoke. This is a big order to fill considering the example that so many older Christians put before you. But "Let no man despise thy youth; be thou an example to "THEM."

SPARTANBURG, S. C. - Fairview

Recently Bro. Clyde Reynolds and family of Ala. placed membership here. Since then he has been doing most of the speaking and conducting a singing class on Wed. night. The average attendance for Oct. has been 18 and the contribution has been $29. We are still paying on our basement.

GIFT OF HOLY SPIRIT

vealed through inspired persons. It was not necessary for everybody who believed on Christ to have those powers. Since the word has been revealed and confirmed the Spirit does not give miraculous powers to any now. We have the word in the scriptures.

After Jesus was glorified He sent the Holy Spirit to do everything necessary for us. He revealed the word and confirmed it. He leads (Rom. 10:14) and strengthens (Eph. 3:16). Those who follow His word are being led and strengthened by Him. He intercedes for us when we know not how to pray as we ought (Rom. 10:26). He will raise from the dead those in whom He dwells (Rom. 10:11). The Spirit may do many things for us which it is not necessary for us to know about (Deut. 29:29).

It is enough for us to know that if we meet Christ's terms of forgiveness we become children of God and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38; Gal. 4:6). It is enough to know that if we continue to keep His word we shall have "joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 14:17) and shall look forward with confidence to all His eternal blessings.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING

I recently received a copy of the Carolina Messenger of Truth. I congratulate all who had a part in making this magazine possible. The Carolinas were my fields of labor for ten years. When I began work in that field there were eleven small groups and two or three full time preachers. The growth has been wonderful. It was my privilege to conduct around one hundred mission meetings in the two states. I thank God for every worker and for all the good that is being done.

J. W. Brents
1602 Burton Ave.
Nashville, Tennessee

NEWS

CAMDEN, S. C., 1009 McRae Road
Sewell Hall, Evangelist

The annual fall meeting of the McRae Road church in Camden will begin Monday night, November 2nd. Brother Rufus Clifford, evangelist of the downtown church in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee will preach. The meeting will continue thru the following Sunday evening, with services each evening at 7:30.

The downtown church in Lawrenceburg has long been interested in the work in South Carolina. For the past seven years, they have furnished all or most of the support for a preacher in Camden. In addition, they have contributed to churches in Lancaster, Florence, and Columbia. Brother Clifford has personally lent much encouragement to the work being done. He has held one meeting previously in Camden.

The congregation seems to be ready for a good meeting. Contributions thus far in October are at an all-time high, and attendance is the best in several months.

BETHUNE, S. C., Route 2
Submitted by Sewell Hall

During the past three months three more mature people have been added to the Lord in Bethune. One of these is now out of duty. The others are faithful.

Another tent meeting was conducted in September. This one continued only five nights with Gardner S. Hall preaching to good crowds. Attendance averaged 72.

The attendance at the regular services continues to average about 50. Contribution totals are close to $ 30 per Sunday. Less than one-third of the original cost of the building site on Highway # 1 remains to be paid. Plans are proceeding for beginning a new building in the near future.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Judson
2 Marble Street
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

The congregation, here at Judson, is looking for a suitable lot with intentions to erect a new meeting-house, and dispose of the present property.

We are happy to announce that one of the brethren here has been ordained a deacon. He is Bro. Carl Lindsey. During the past month, we had 1 to be restored to fellowship.

Brother Clyde Hale, who was scheduled to hold a meeting here this month, had had to cancel the meeting. Brother Carl Lancaster, of Tryon, N. Carolina, has been engaged to hold one for us from November 1st thru the 8th. Services will be nightly at 7:30. We are planning to have a song service Sunday, November 1st at 3:00 o'clock.

We extend to everyone a cordial invitation to attend.

CHESTER, S. C.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

"Attendance-wise," September was a record month for Chester with 55 present one Sunday AM. One was restored during the month. Earle West, of Cleveland, Ohio, will preach November 1st thru the 8th at Chester in a gospel meeting. I was privileged to speak in a well-attended, brief meeting at Mocksville, N. C. The Lord willing, I shall be with the Park St. church in Columbia, S. C., November 15 - 22. Good reports continue to be heard relative to the "Messenger of Truth."

AIKEN, S. C.
Submitted by C. C. Vaughan

For three weeks in September a tent meeting was held in the city of Aiken. Preaching was done by C. C. Vaughan of Camden, S. C. This meeting was made possible by contributions from both colored and white congregations and individuals. Attendance was good, and interest was manifest from the very beginning. One lady was baptized, bringing the total membership to two, among the colored race in Aiken. Bro. Richard Williams and Brother Vaughan join in thanking all who helped to make this meeting the success it was. Bro. Williams, who is working with the Williston church, is also taking the initiative in further establishing the church in Aiken. There is a great potential for the further advancement of the Lord's work in this area where many lost souls reside. A tent meeting has already been planned for next year. It will continue for a full month, beginning in the last two weeks of May, and ending the first two weeks in June. Let us pray for every effort put forth in every area of the Lord's cause.

DUNCAN, S. C.
Milton S. Parker, Evangelist

Our meeting, with Bro. Roy Burgess doing the preaching, closed Thursday night, October the 8th. Bro. Burgess did his work well, and the members could not have given better support to the meeting. We had an average attendance of 83, with a number of outsiders present for each service.

We extend to all an invitation to visit, and worship with us.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

One was restored in September at Moore. Bro. Tom Burton is to be with us in April, in our Spring meeting. We are now engaged in a study of Daniel on Wednesday night. Peace and harmony continue to prevail in this congregation.

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SPECIAL REQUEST FROM EDITOR!

May we urge all of you to be more prompt in sending in your report each month! Remember - if it comes in later than the 20th, it cannot be printed!

GREENVILLE, S. C. Buncombe Rd.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

During our meeting with Newton Gribble, two responded to the Lord's invitation, one to be restored, and one to be baptized. Average attendance during the meeting was 70.

Three families moved away to other states this last month. Our present membership is 92. On October 18th, two were restored and placed membership, and one was baptized.

Bro. and Sis. J. W. Davis, who formerly worked with this congregation, and who are now living in Sitka, Alaska, were blessed with the birth of a new baby girl on October 11th.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Robert. R. Carrell, Evangelist

Bro. Robert R. Carrell, a native of Indiana, and former ly minister of the Ninth Avenue church, in St. Petersburg, Florida, began work with this congregation on August 9th.

Bro. Sidney Astin, who was evangelist here for six years, has begun work with the church in Greggton, Texas.

NEWPORT, N. C.
Tom. M. Roberts, Evangelist

Not having sent in a report on the work of the church here since late in 1958, I am happy to say that there is quite a difference in what was reported then and the situation now. At that time, we were looking forward to wonderful prospects and at the same time, enjoying great steps forward. However, our best expectations have been more than met.

Attendance-wise, we had set our goals as follows: Bible Class Study, 110; Morning Worship, 150; Evening Worship, 125; and Wednesday night, 110. These are monthly averages.

Last month, the actual attendance was respectively 139, 176, 142, 110. We have had record crowds, one right on top of another and the last Sunday of our meeting, with A. W. Atkinson doing the preaching, 197 were present. Before the year is finished, we hope for and expect attendance in excess of 200 for the morning worship. Most of our services are being consistently high, and not spasmodically jumping up and down.

The financial load will be completely abolished in nine months. This includes the church building, and the home for the preacher. The elders here are very wisely biding their time and are slowly formulating plans to use this money to the best interest of the Lord's kingdom in eastern North Carolina.

The majority of the members here are ever-faithful saints. As in all congregations, however, there are some sluggardly members. The church here is taking withdrawal action (a forgotten identifying mark of the Lord's church) against some who are extremely negligent and un-Godly. We commend this action to the churches who read this report: Cut out

the dead matter, so that healthy growth may continue. The Lord's church has forgotten how to obey this command.

Responses to the Gospel have been good, although I do not have the number available at the present. We have had two meetings this year, and will have a third in November. Bro. J. Wiley Adams, who used to preach for the brethren here, will return to preach for us in that meeting. We pray for the spread of New Testament Christianity throughout the Carolinas, as elsewhere.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Attendance this week - 85; two responses. We are working on a plan to fully organize this congregation with regard to the work that needs to be done. Our goal is to plan the work, assign the work, and thoroughly perform the work. Our meeting with Dabney Phillips will start next week, October 19th. We expect results for the Lord. During my meeting in Jacksonville, there were two responses.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Attendance this week - 44; two new families have moved in to this area which has greatly strengthened the congregation. We rejoice at the prospect of two new workers in this area soon. Jesse Melton and Virgil Hale, both of Nashville, Tennessee, plan to enter Lumberton in January. We met with Virgil Hale while in Nashville last month in the hope of diverting his interest to either Whiteville or Aberdeen instead of Lumberton, but regardless of the point decided upon, we thank the Lord of Harvest for more laborers. We are going ahead with plans for a meeting in Whiteville for November but as yet the speaker has not definitely been determined.

SENECA, S. C.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

Again this month, the Seneca church has risen to new levels of attainment. Contributions have averaged over $ 100 per Sunday during October, which is fully 50 % more than was being contributed last year at this time. A record attendance was present for the first two Sundays in October, due to additions to the membership, plus cooperation from the regulars. However, since members have to drive about 30 miles, from some directions, in order to attend the services of the church in this remote corner of the state, we dread the coming of winter, with its ice and snow.

The work at Clemson College continues to heartening. We truly believe some of the finest Christians in the world can be found in our section of the state, for some here have sacrificed time and again, and some have gone out on individual initiative, to tell others of Christ. Such zeal gives us a feeling of real warmth.

GREENVILLE, S. C. Augusta Road
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

Some real progress is being seen here. We have had one baptism and one restoration so far in October. On October 18 we had our highest attendance at a regular service with 132 present. September was also a good month, attendance-wise. We had an average of 90 (a new record) for Bible Study and 105 for the 11 o'clock service. The meeting I conducted at Fayetteville, Indiana during the first part of October resulted in two baptisms.

ALEXANDER, N. C. Red Oak
Carl Hyder, E. G. Kerr, Evang.

We are fortunate to have two preachers, home-grown ones, to teach the Gospel and edify the church. They give their time free of charge to this work.

A lady was baptized the last Sunday in September. She now brings her five youngsters to our assembly with her, for which we are glad.

FLORENCE, S. C.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist

With our fine fall meeting behind us, we look forward to our Spring meeting, with Bro. Harold Scott, of Statesville, N. C. doing the preaching.

Each meeting here shows more interest and higher attendance figures than ever before.

Faithful families moving into our area from other states have added to our strength, both numerically and spiritually. The brethren here take another stride forward on the first of January, 1960, when they take over partial support of their preacher. The Herald of Truth radio program is being heard in this area over Radio Station WJMX, Florence, S. C., each Sunday at 2:30 PM.

STATESVILLE, N. C. Broad St.
Harold Scott, Evangelist

Eight souls responded to the invitation of Christ during our Gospel meeting, Oct. 11th through the 18th. Bro. Sewell Hall of Camden, S. C. preached Christ as few men are talented to proclaim Him. The average attendance during the meeting was 147, with a high of 183 on the last Sunday morning.

Attendance during the month of October has averaged 180 at the Sunday morning worship.

REMARKS FROM THE NEWS EDITOR:

Brethren, we rejoice because of the wonderful cooperation that has been given to this very feeble effort to bring the churches in these two states closer together. Please continue to stand by us, and hold up our hands in this fine work. Send in your reports on time, making them as brief but as comprehensive as possible, so that others "may know of your good work, and glorify the Father who is in Heaven."

We believe the work we are attempting to do, in our halting and stumbling way, is worthy of your support and aid.

NOW IN PROGRESS

A Series of Gospel Meetings

HEAR

Earle West

EVANGELIST

CLEVELAND, OHIO



November 1 -- 8

AT THE

Church of Christ

135 SALUDA ST.

CHESTER, S. C

SERVICES

SUNDAY 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. WEEK DAYS 7:45 P. M.

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TO ATTEND A SERIES OF GOSPEL MEETINGS

At The

Fairview Church of Christ

SPARTANBURG, S. C.

November 8 - 14 7:30 P. M. Each Evening

EVANGELIST MILTON S. PARKER SPEAKING

DUNCAN, S. C.

SINGING AT 3 P. M. NOV. 8TH

CAROLINA
Messenger of Truth



DECEMBER 1959

RADIO AND TV GUIDE

SUNDAY

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia, S. C.	7:30 P. M.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C.	2:30 P. M.
WBTW, Chl. 8, Florence	11:30 A. M.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 P. M.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington, N. C.	-noon
WJMX	2:30 P. M.
WKIX	2:30 P. M.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 P. M.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 A. M.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 P. M.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 P. M.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 P. M.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 P. M.
WHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 P. M.
WRRZ, Clinton, N. C.	2:30 P. M.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham, N. C.	9:15 A. M.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 A. M.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380	9:15 A. M.
WHIP, Mooresville, N. C.	4:30 P. M.
WACA, 1590	8:40 A. M.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.	8:45 A. M.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 A. M.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.	8:45 A. M.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.	9:30 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	10:00 A. M.
WGBR, Goldsboro, N. C.	8:30 A. M.

MONDAY-FRIDAY

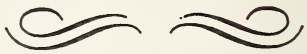
WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

THURSDAY

WWBD, Bamberg. S. C.	11:45 A. M.

SATURDAY

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.



WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING I THE RADIO AND TELEVISION LISTING HEREIN ARE CORRECT OR COMPLET UNLESS YOU LET US HEAR FROM YO REGARDING THE TIME AND PLACE O THE PROGRAMS BROADCAST IN YOU AREA!

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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SIN OF DIVISION

Everette G. Shoaf
Sumter, S. C.

Take all the complex functions of industry, society, recreation, and religion and analyze them. Attempt to reproduce any one of them and you will be confronted with "organization". All of life is made up of "many members... and all members have not the same function", and yet our body, under normal conditions, performs that for which it is designed. The reason it functions properly is primarily due to its organization. I Cor. 12:14-26. Each member performs the function God created it to perform. However, all the functions of each of the members of our body is dependent upon the brain to direct or command that action. Should any member be acted upon by any other power than the brain it will suffer harm and thus endanger the entire body. However perfect the organization of the body, or its creation as the case may be, its functions, whether it be an individual member or the body as a whole, may serve an end completely opposed to the Creator's design.

Consider the organization and function of the church as it is defined in the inspired scriptures. Compile an outline that includes all the scriptures on the subject "The Organization And Function Of The Church". You now have the designer's purpose for the existence of the spiritual body. In reality you have the brain of the church, the divine organization. Truly you have outlined the New Covenant. Now use the outline! Find the organization that follows the outline you have compiled and you will see a local congregation of God's people--Christians. Of all the organizations of the world only one will fulfill the qualifications of that outline. If that organization is not being acted upon by other powers it will be performing all the functions the designer intends for it to perform. One should not rest until he has found that organization.

The sin of religious division is brought into reality by one, or many, who transgress the divine pattern of organization and function. When any member performs another function than that specified by the designer it is rendered digressive. Should all, or the majority of the members be digressive then the body is digressive. Then it ceases to be the organization originally designed. It is therefore divided from the intended purpose of its existence. As such, a digressive organization, as well as an individual of such an organization, is useless and will be destroyed. Just a few nights ago a Christian brother said, "A religious body may preserve unity, peace, and harmony, and still not be the pure organization established by Christ". In contrast, another person, who serves in an organization not recorded in God's word, stated with pride, "I would rather be in a church that has the majority of members". May it always be remembered that the authenticity of any organization is not determined by popular vote. Neither is an organization's right to exist determined by the union of those who make it up. Nor does God render any religious organization legitimate purely upon their own claims and doctrine. The only basis for a spiritual organization whatever is the inspired word of God, and the church of Christ is the fulfillment of the organization specified therein. The conclusion therefore must be that all other religious bodies are without religious authority, constitute division, and are detrimental to the salvation of souls. Although God tolerates their existence now He will not spare its members in the judgement.

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MY

HEART'S DESIRE

C. W. Bradley
South Fork congregation
Winston-Salem, N. C.



What is the main desire of your heart? What, more than anything else, do you want to accomplish in life? Almost all people are driven by some strong ambition. What is yours?

Is it to be wealthy? Is it to have a good time? Is it to be wise in the knowledge of this world? Is it to climb the social ladder? Is it to gain power over others? Since we generally accomplish that which we really want to do, then if these things are your goal, you will likely succeed. But let me remind you of the conclusion drawn by one who did try to find happiness through these avenues... "All is vanity and vexation of spirit." (Ecclesiastes 2: 11). Surely there must be a more worthy heart's desire.

All Christians will agree that the apostle Paul was one of the most outstanding men who ever walked this earth. Let him tell us of his heart's desire. "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." (Romans 10:1). This was the real burden of his soul, the chief petition of his prayers, the main interest in his life. Listen to him. "For I could wish that I myself were anathema from Christ for my brethren's sake, my kinsmen according to the flesh." (Romans 9:3).

That man may be saved, is not this God's great desire? Above everything that God might want of us, does He not yearn that we may be saved from sin and enter into heaven to live with him forever? He does not "wish that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (II Peter 3:9). "This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth." (I Timothy 2:3).

Was not this the great desire of our Saviour while he was on this earth? Hear him express this very purpose, "For the Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10). To Joseph the angel said, "And she shall bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21).

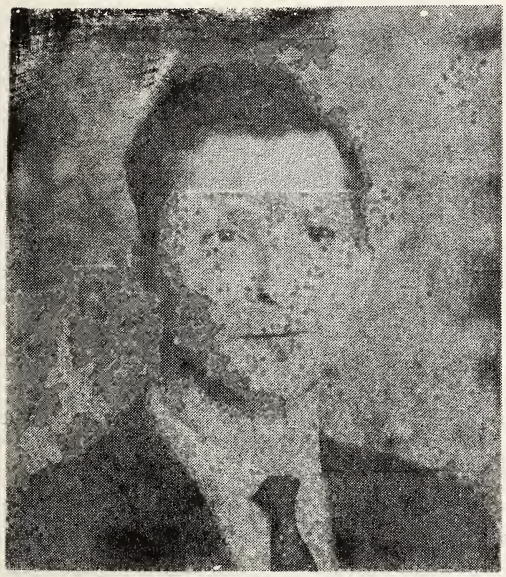
Was not this the real purpose of the cross? "For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many unto remission of sins." (Matthew 26:28). "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto myself." (John 12:32).

Is not the salvation of the lost the real purpose of the Gospel? "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation..." (Romans 1:16).

Is not this the great purpose of preach-

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CHRIST PRAYED FOR UNITY



W. G. Gantt
N. Main St. congregation
Mocksville, N. C.

In the Savior's prayer for believers in all ages to come, He uttered these words, "Neither pray I for these alone, (apostles) but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they ALL may be ONE; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be ONE in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be ONE, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast loved me." John 17:20-23.

His reason given in this prayer for unity is, "That the world may believe that God did send Him." The greatest hinderance to the conversion of the world is the divided state of religious people. It keeps the world from believing in Christ, and from accepting the Bible as God's Divine Truth. All who have the Spirit of Christ, will work and pray for the oneness of all believers. Those who would promote division could not consistently say "Amen" to the Lord's prayer for unity, and cannot have the "Spirit of Christ", and if "we have not the Spirit of Christ, we are none of his," says the apostle in Rom. 8:9.

Christ died for UNITY. The law of Moses was a middle wall of partition to divide Jews and Gentiles. But our Lord died to break down this partition that all believers might be united in one body by the cross. Eph. 2:14-16. Speaking of the Gentiles, Christ said, "Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." John 10:16. This statement was made before the cross, and was fulfilled under the great commission, when obedient Gentiles were reconciled unto God and added to the same fold, body, or church made up of obedient Jews. Paul said, "That the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel." Ephesians 3:6. The one fold and one shepherd of John 10:16, is the one body and one Lord of Ephesians chapter four. Surely when one reads this chapter, he can readily see that all believers must be united in the same body, if taught by the same Spirit, and believes in the same Lord. Reading from Eph. 4: 3-6, "Endeavouring to keep the UNITY of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is ONE BODY, and ONE SPIRIT, even as ye are called in ONE HOPE of your calling; ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM, ONE GOD and Father of all, who is above all,

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GOD IS LOVE



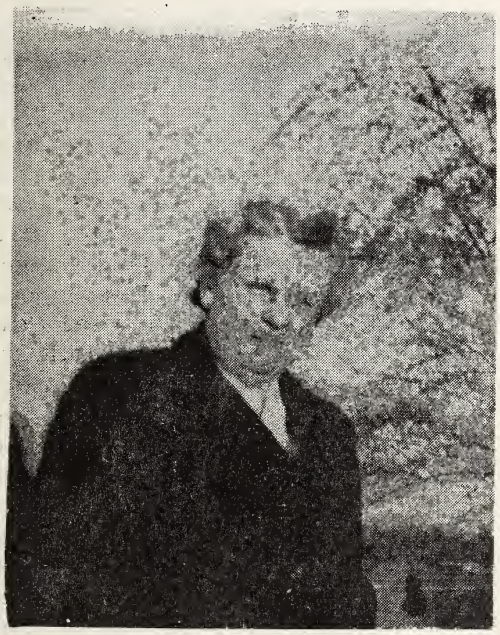
Tom A. Isaacs
Plaza congregation
Charlotte, N. C.

A group of archeologist are digging cautiously in the ruins of an ancient city. Suddenly one of them screams with delight as he pulls from the ruins of that ancient city an almost effaced bit of papyrus. There were three words written upon this piece of ancient material. After great difficulty the assembled men of letters succeed in deciphering the first two words, GOD IS ___." There is a dreadful suspense while they labor to decipher the third word. What is God? This is a question upon the answer to which human destiny very much depends. There is a glow of satisfaction, when at last, they make out letter by letter the third word, L-O-V-E. GOD IS LOVE. This sublime statement is unsurpassed in all the history of man. Never was a more important declaration made than this; never was more meaning crowded into a few words than in this short sentence--GOD IS LOVE. In the darkness of this world of sin--in all the sorrows that come now upon the human race, and that will come upon the wicked hereafter--we have the assurance that a God of infinite benevolence rules over all. It was left to the disciple of love, John, to make this fully satisfying statement about God. "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for GOD IS LOVE." I Jno. 4:7,8.

God is an infinite being. The finite can not comprehend the infinite. Therefore, man cannot fully comprehend the being and character of God. We can never fully comprehend the depth of this statement made by John, God is love. We can know though, that this statement shows the benevolence of the Divine nature. He is not merely benevolent; He is benevolence itself. Notice that John does not say that love is God, but only that God is love. God is love, but love is not God. Not every manifestation of charity or kindness or benevolence or sacrifice is a sign of being a child of God. One that would love in the Biblical sense of the word, must take his stand near the cross of love or as Matthew Henry once said, "He that would keep warm must stay near the fire". He that would love must stay near the source of love--God. When love is associated with faith and devotion toward Jesus, the son of God, then it becomes a proof of one being a child of God. It has been well observed that, although God is Holy, Just, Righteous, etc., He is never called Holiness, Justice, etc., in the abstract as He

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WOMEN'S COLUMN — Guided By His Star



Mellie H. Waters
Greenville, S. C.

God has a purpose in every life and that purpose can be found by those who seek it. Since the Lord knows the purpose, he will reveal it in response to earnest prayer. It should be the aim of every Christian woman to find her place in Christian service.

Realizing that God has something to do with our future is an important step in our life. To dedicate ourselves to Christ and enter into His abundant life is the right start for every one. We must ask ourself this question, "In the light of my allegiance to Christ, what will I do with my life?"

1. The call of the Highest
2. The pull of the lowest
3. The appeal of the practical

The first is a challenge to put Christ first in our plans. It is service rendered and worthy objectives attained; it has nothing to do with wishful thinking.

The second is felt in the temptation to sacrifice principles for worldly gain.

The third is an inducement to be content with the mediocre, choosing an easy path, coasting down hill. One of these will determine which direction we are going. The decision is ours. Which course will we choose? Being a Christian is a vocation in itself, so actually every Christian is in full time service. So the question is, "How can I best serve the Lord with the talents he has given me?"

God may want us to be--an accountant, who counts her blessings in Christ--an artist, to paint the beauty of holiness--one who seeks God for an answer to life's purpose.

Are you a dedicated Christian interested in soul winning? Do you feel the need of God in your life? Are you absolutely, prayerfully committed to God's will, willing to reach out for the "high calling" which is in Christ Jesus.

May we be able to answer, "Yes", to all these questions, and to demonstrate in our lives the love of Jesus who died on the cross to redeem us to himself.

By a teacher taught by the Master teacher, Mellie H. Waters, Buncombe Rd. congregation, Greenville, S. C.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

The numbers following your name and address indicate the expiration date of your subscription. For example 4 - 60

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SIN OF DIVISION (cont'd from page 3)

Division defeats all the basic principles of Christianity. God's divine pattern required the sacrifice of Jesus Christ to correlate into one body that which had previously been divided. Eph. 2:13-18. The same sacrifice that broke down the barrier between the Jew and the Gentile of apostolic days offers oneness to the religious world today. However, as the Jews and the Gentiles, for the most part, failed to submit themselves unto the terms of reconciliation their hopes of unity were impossible. On the other hand, the Jews and Gentiles who accepted the terms of reconciliation were welded together by the common bond of the gospel in Christ. One only has to examine a few passages of the New Testament to understand the unity God desires. One doesn't need to be a Bible scholar to understand that the Lord adds to the church, or one body, all that obey the terms of admission into that one body. Acts 2:41, 47. The same source that defines the manner of entrance into the one spiritual organization defines the means of preserving the unity of the body. It is not logical to assume that all people are added to that one body by obeying diversities of doctrines. Each religious body has its own authority or standard to govern the functions of that body. For example, the Methodist Church has a discipline book which defines the terms of admission and functions of that religion. When one submits himself to the teachings of the Methodist Discipline he becomes a Methodist. Such a person proudly proclaims to all that he is a Methodist. On the other hand, when one submits himself to the New Testament he becomes a Christian, and thereby brings glory to God in that name. Could one then be consistent with logic or common sense when he says the Methodist and the Christian are walking in unity? It is impossible to follow two distinctively different patterns and be united. "How can two walk together except they be agreed?" Amos 3:3.

The scriptures emphasize the unity and cohesion that is common among Christians who love God and honor every precept of His will. One would be wise to consider the words of Christ when He said, "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand". Matt. 12:25. Paul used the destructive forces of division, when he was falsely assused before the council of the Jews, to create confusion, confound the purposed result, and thereby warrant his escape. The devil uses division equally as well to bring about numerous evils that damn the souls of those he overpowers. Such is the division that is evident among those who are not in Christ, do not wear His name, do not obey the gospel, and are denominational in the very purpose of their existence. Every denomination upon the face of the earth exists because at one time or another God's word was excluded by the originators or members of that organization, whether in part or as a whole. Therefore the organization of the religious society is unscriptural.

Division separates from God. Division withholds the truth. Division fans the flames of confusion. Division harbors its instigators--strife, hatred, jealousy, sedition, envy, etc. Division is the greatest enemy of organization. To those who are not in the divine institution, of which Christ is Head and Savior (Eph. 5:23; Col. 1:18), division is just another shackle in the bondage of sin. The ultimate of division is separation from God "and from the glory of His power". God's divine organization must not be divided!

NOTICE (cont'd from page 7)
means that your last paper will arrive in April, 1960. Be sure to renew in time so that you will not miss a single issue.

HEART'S DESIRE (cont'd from page 4)

ing? "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." (I Corinthians 1:21). "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:13-14).

Was not this desire to save the lost the main interest of the Christians of the first century? When those very first Christians were forced to give up their homes in Jerusalem because of severe persecution, we are informed that "they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word." (Acts 8:4).

Should not the heart's desire of every Christian in the world today be to save the lost? But is this our chief interest in life? Is this the one great ambition that moves us? Or, are we much more interested in a thousand things?

In many, many ways Paul proved that his heart's desire was to save the lost. He did this by preaching, praying, working, writing and suffering. He considered himself "debtor to both Greeks and Barbarians, both to the wise and the foolish." (Romans 1:14). As a further indication of how he felt about this matter he said, "For necessity is laid upon me; for woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel." (I Corinthians 9:16).

Through all the years of planning the Scheme of Human Redemption, was not God proving His desire for man to be saved? In sending His "only begotten son" to this earth, in sending the Holy Spirit, in giving us the Bible, in planning the church, was not God proving that it was His desire to save man?

Look at Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane! See Him as "His sweat as it were great drops of blood falling down upon the ground"! (Luke 22:44). See His enemies as they mocked Him, slapped Him, and spat upon Him! See Him as those nails were driven through His hands! Hear Him cry, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46). See Him finally hang His head in death! Will you not agree that He proved His desire to save the lost?

If it is our heart's desire to save the lost, we will prove it, too. It will show in our thinking, talking, praying, and our working.

If this were really our heart's desire nothing would stop us... the world would stand amazed at our progress. Discouragement, ridicule, and persecution would not stop us. If saving the lost were our main interest in life, no earthly power would keep us from giving the very best that we have. Held back by a lack of financial means? No, not if every member of the Lord's church in the world were being driven by a great desire to save the lost. We might not eat as much at times; we might not drive as expensive automobiles; we might not live in as beautiful homes, but we would not let the Lord's work be held back for lack of money.

Think of the more than a million and a half members of the body of Christ across this good nation of ours. Think of our potentials: Visualize what could be done if every Christian had the saving of souls as his outstanding desire. Yet in many sections of this country there is a woeful need for more gospel preachers. And though in recent years a few have gone to other countries, think of all the millions who are lost having never heard the gospel of the Christ. Think of those thousands right here in the Carolinas who are lost. If it

HEART'S DESIRE(cont'd from page 9)

were the heart's desire of every Christian in these two good states to save the lost, think what could be done.

Isn't it wonderful that God can use our feeble hearts and hands for the salvation of others? Isn't it frightening that God has no other way to bring the message of salvation to the lost except through us? Isn't it thrilling beyond description when we have succeeded in reaching our friends with the saving gospel? Isn't it truly amazing that we who have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ and so richly blessed, have done so little in carrying this story of redemption to others? Isn't it comforting to know that God is willing to forgive us for our neglect? Isn't it challenging that we can begin today expressing our heart's desire to save the lost? Are we willing?

A few years ago while working with the church in Statesville, North Carolina I asked for a show of hands of all those whose salvation had been brought about because some Christian had a desire to see them saved and had let that desire express itself in action. I was not really surprised to see many hands go up. How many of you Christians who read this article owe your salvation to the fact that someone had a burning desire to see you saved?

We have been saved to save; we have been won to win. Let us awake out of our sleep. It is later than we think. "Say not there are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest? behold I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, that they are white already unto harvest". (John 4:35).

DON'T MISS BACK COVER! ! ! ! ! !

GOD IS LOVE (cont'd from page 6)

is here called love. Love seems to be the very essence of the divine nature and all other attributes to be only modifications of this.

Inasmuch as love is the very essence of the nature of God, it follows that all who partake of His nature acquire the characteristics of love. The absence of love indicates that one does not know God. I Jno. 4:8. One cannot claim to love God and hate the things that God loves. True it is that we must love God with all of our being, Matt. 22:36-38, but one also must love the things God loves to be like God for God is love. This fact is substantiated by I John 4:7,8. Notice that no object of the verb love is expressed in these verses. This indicates that John meant that children of God are to love everything that God loves.

What are the objects of God's love? First of all, God loves His own Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus witnesses to this truth. "Father, I desire that they also whom thou hast given me be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world." John 17:24. Therefore, the Christian must love Christ to be like God for God loves His Son and God is love. The Christian must love Christ above everything and everyone on this earth for Jesus said, "If any man cometh unto me, and hateth not his own father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:26. See also Matt. 10:37. The test of our love for Christ is obedience, for Christ declared, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments". Jno. 14:15. One cannot love Christ and fail to keep His commandments for Christ says one proves his love by doing those things which

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UNITY cont'd

and through all, and in you all".

When factions arose in the church at Corinth, Paul asked three questions: "Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" His argument was since he was not the one who died for them, and since Christ is not divided, we can not follow him and be divided. "That there should be no schism in the body." I Cor. 12:25. The religious world is divided and is in a state of confusion, "But God is not the author of confusion." I Cor. 14:33. There are divisions within and without, and God is not the one to be blamed, for He hates those that "sow discord among the brethren." Prov. 6:16-19.

It is not good nor pleasant for families, communities and friends to be divided religiously. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in UNITY." Psa. 133:1. It is indeed heart breaking to see so many people who claim to love and believe in the Christ, and accept the same Bible, divided into approximately three hundred different waring sects here in our own country, when our Lord Jesus Christ prayed so fervently for unity to the end that the world might be converted. According to his prayer, UNITY is essential to world conversion. All believers said Christ, "are to be one as he and God were one". This unity must be on the basis of loyalty and obedience to God. Following the guidance of the law of Christ is the only way to unity. "But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1:7. Only those who walk in the light can have fellowship one with another. Those who walk in error and those who walk in truth can not be united. "God's word is truth. It is a lamp unto our feet and a light" unto the path of unity.

The apostle states that "divisions and offences" are laid at the door of those who teach and practice that which is contrary to the doctrine of Christ. Rom. 16:17, 18. Anything contrary to the doctrine of Christ is the doctrine of men. Therefore, human creeds are unscriptural. They even contradict each other and serve only to divide religious minded people. Hence they can not be true, but are bones of contention, and should be laid aside in the interest of that unity for which Christ prayed, and can be had on the basis of the New Testament only. Father I pray "that they all may be one, . . . that the world may believe that thou hast sent me".

GOD IS LOVE (cont'd from page 10)

Christ commands of him. In the second place God loves the believer in His son, Jesus. To His disciples Jesus said, "For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me and have believed that I came forth from the Father". Jno. 16:27. In this verse the Greek word, phileo, is used for love, indicating the fatherly affection of God for the believer in Christ. This is love in a more intense form than that spoken of for the world, (Jno. 3:16), for here the Greek word is agapae. So God loves the obedient believer in a special sense and here is a Biblical truth that should thrill every child of God. Seeing then that God loves the obedient believer in His Son in a special sense it becomes the duty of Christians to love one another to be like God for God is love. (I Jno. 3: 14, 15; I Jno. 4:7-11; I Pet. 1:22; I Jno. 4: 20, 21). Jesus said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another". Jno. 13:35. In other words Jesus is saying that our love

 (see page 12)

GOD IS LOVE (cont'd from page 11)

for one another is a badge of discipleship. A third object of the love of God is the world. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life." Of course we understand that when Jesus says here that God loves the world he is talking about the people of the world, the poor lost souls separated from God and Christ by their sins. Therefore Christians must love the lost to be like God for God loves those that are lost. So many so-called Christians do not love the lost. We forget that we were once lost without God and without hope. If we really love the lost we will preach the gospel to them for the gospel is God's power to save their souls, (Rom. 1:16), and we will pray for their salvation as did the apostle Paul for the salvation of Israel. (Rom. 10:1-3). Christians the fields are "white unto harvest". Let us show our love for the lost by taking the gospel to them.

Observe also that John tells us that one who abides in God, and God in him, because God is love. (I Jno. 4:16). He who is full of love to God and man is full of God, for God is Love. Where such love is, there is God, for his is the fountain, source and maintainer of love. In the absence of love, God is not there for God is love. God cannot dwell in the heart filled with hate. (I Jno. 4:20). God is Love and love will remove all the hatred, crimes, jealousies, wars and will diffuse around the globe the bliss of heaven. God cannot dwell in the heart filled with worldly love. (I Jno. 2:15-17). If we love the world, the love of the Father is not in us. These two loves are incompatible; they are not in agreement. Jesus said, "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon". (Matt. 6:24).

As we conclude this article I call your attention to the supreme manifestation of the fact that God is love. As has already been shown, the finite cannot fully comprehend the infinite. We cannot understand the statement, God is love. God knew this and so He has shown us this great truth in the precious gift of His wonderful Son. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son." (Jno. 3:16). "But God commendeth his own love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8). As we look back toward the cross of Calvary; as we behold the Son of God there upon; as we witness the shame, suffering and sorrow heaped upon the Son of God, we ask why? Why did God allow this to happen to His only begotten Son? The answer comes ringing down to us through the ages, because GOD IS LOVE; because on that occasion God's love for man transcended His love for His only begotten Son. Friend, if God so loved you and me, we ought to love Him more than anything or everything on this earth. John wrote, "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grevious". (I Jno. 5:3). Friend, if you are not a Christian, a child of God, won't you obey Him as proof of your love to Him, for HE IS LOVE. Christian, if you are not keeping His commandments, return to your first love and determine at this moment to always rest your head upon the bosom of him who IS LOVE. This is my prayer for all those who read this article.

When submitting photographs for publication, please send black and white with good contrast for the best results in reproduction.

The Publisher

NEWS

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VALDESE, N. C.
P. O. Box 72
James A. Davis, Evangelist

The last week in September, Carl Lancaster, of Tryon, N. Carolina did the preaching in a meeting at Lenoir, N. C. The church there was greatly encouraged by this meeting. It was their first in several years. Bro. Lancaster and I visited in at least 65 homes during this meeting, and contacted at least that number of people.

And then, immediately following the meeting in Lenoir, Bro. Lancaster came over for a meeting in Valdese. The meeting here was well attended, and the brethren from Hickory were represented almost every evening. Some came from Taylorsville, Marion and Lenoir, also. Carl is a very fine preacher and everyone enjoyed his sermons, and were helped by them.

We will be leaving Valdese at the end of the month to return to Hendersonville, and work with the church there. Anyone interested in moving to Valdese should contact the church, P.O. Box 72, Valdese. This is a wonderful group to work with, and there is no unrest or contention of any kind in the congregation. The nice meeting house is located within one block of highway 70 in a good section of the town, and the church owns a spacious home of about seven rooms. The membership is most cooperative in all phases of the work for the growth and advancement of the church.

VALDESE continued:

SENECA, S. C.
706 Adams Street
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

Both attendance and contributions are at an all-time record level at Seneca. We are trying hard to "wean" the congregation away from all outside support. Our offering is now hovering around the 90-100 dollar mark, but it will have to climb to approximately 135 dollars per week before we can be entirely self-supporting.

If you know of any student in Clemson, who attends the services of the church, please send us his name, and also try to encourage him yourself. We sometimes forget all about our many young people in the state institutions.

NOTE OF THANKS:

Dear Christian Friends:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Christian friends who sent contributions to help me with expenses in the illness and death of my husband, G. W. Nicholas, minister of the Anderson, S. C. church, who passed away in July of this year. May God bless you all. Sis. Nicholas

ALBEMARLE, N. C.
Frank R. Milton, Evang.

So far this year we have had five baptisms. The congregation has doubled in one year. When I came over here a little over a year ago, we had nine members. Now we have eighteen. Our last meeting was closed on Wednesday, October 21st. We had a tent located in Rock Creek City Park. We also had signs on the highway, and one large banner which was lighted at night. We had over sixty people to visit from the community. Also many visitors came from out of town. The people here are very friendly, and we are looking forward to great things in the future, the Lord willing. The tent meeting was such a success we are planning a repeat in the spring. The tent will be located in an even more prominent place on the other side of town. Bro. Gary McDonald, of Asheboro, did the preaching in the last meeting. Brother Riley Moore of Columbia, Tennessee, will preach in the next meeting.

GASTONIA, N. C.
510 Broad Street
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evang.

We had our fifth baptism of the year on Sunday, Oct. 11th. We have averaged our goal of $ 250 per Sunday for the last six weeks. In fact, we have averaged in the $ 270's. We broke our record contribution this year of $ 308.10, with a sum of $ 309.64 on Nov. 8th.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
54 Vance Street
Wayman Love, Evangelist

Our fall meeting closed on October 23, with two being restored. Bro. Walter G. Bumgardner, preacher for the Red Bank church in Chattanooga, Tennessee, did the preaching in this meeting. The Red Bank church stands firmly behind the Vance Street work. In the last few months about eleven have been identified with the Vance Street congregation. Since the closing of the meeting last Friday night, two have been baptized, one on Sunday morning, and the other Tuesday evening about 5:30. The work is growing at Vance Street. We invite you to visit with us and see how wonderfully the Lord has blessed us.

HICKORY, N. C.
105 Main Avenue, NE
John H. Shoun, Evangelist

James S. Woodroof, former minister of the Hickory congregation preached in our fall meeting, November 1 - 7. Two were baptized into Christ. The church worked together zealously in this cause and was strengthened. A record attendance of about 100 was present Sunday evening, Nov. 1.

The church in Hickory is interested in securing a full-time minister to work with us. John Shoun, who has preached for the church during the past two years while employed at Southern Desk Company, is moving from Hickory December 1st

HICKORY continued:

At the present time, the congregation is united, faithful and ready to go forward. Anyone interested in this work should write to C. L. Downey, Lakeside, Hickory, N. C.

CHESTER, S. C.
135 Saluda Street
Dabney Phillips, Evang.

Three adults were baptized in the Chester meeting with Earle West preaching. There were 38 non-members who visited from Chester, and 17 of these had never attended a service conducted by our brethren previously. I closed a short but interesting meeting in Wilmington, N. C. in which one was baptized. At this writing I am anticipating the meeting with O. P. Baird at Park St. in Columbia, S. C. the last of November.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C.
Box 27
Joe Riggs, Evangelist

Our fall meeting with Bro. Jackson of Florence, S.C. resulted in one restoration and one to confess her error in worshipping God with the musical instrument. Bro. Jackson presented lessons which were plain and powerful, because they were based on the word of God. We are grateful for his part in the meeting, and the wonderful job he did.

Thus far this year, our attendance has increased about four over the average of last year. The attendance has averaged 60 for the worship service, and the contribution has averaged $ 101.53 per Sunday. There is, however, still room for improvement on both, and with the help of God, we will do it.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
2201 New Buncombe Road
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

Since our last report two have been restored and two placed membership on Nov. 15. The paper looks good - keep up the good work.

Sister H. H. Camp, Sr. passed away Monday, November 16th, at 8:30 A. M., in Greenville General Hospital. Bro. Camp, her husband, passed away August 24th. Both were members of the Buncombe Rd. church.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
215 S. Seventeenth St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evang.

Our meeting with Dabney Phillips was the best attended ever held here. A new evening attendance record was set and one was baptized while the meeting was in progress. Two were baptized on the Sunday following.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Our meeting with O. P. Baird preaching reached a record attendance of 75 on the last night. There was one response to the invitation. Two Nash-

WHITEVILLE continued:

ville area preachers spent an afternoon in Whiteville, and visited the service that evening. They agreed to consider moving here in January but were on their way to inspect Wilson, N. C. as a possible place to locate. They were originally considering Lumberton, N. C., but have lately decided against that location.

The Whiteville congregation is at present in the process of purchasing a very desirably located residence, which will be used as a place of meeting until they are able to build. Our attendance is averaging a little over forty per Sunday.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
2 Marble Street, Judson
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

We enjoyed a very profitable meeting here at Judson this month, with Brother Carl Lancaster of Tryon, N. C., preaching. Five young people obeyed the gospel of Christ. Also, after the meeting we had one to acknowledge wrong and be restored to fellowship in the church. The attendance has been good. Bible Study on Sunday morning has averaged 121 per week this month. We have recently begun a song leading and song practice class on Sunday evenings priot to our regular service.

DEADLINE FOR NEWS REPORTS --- 20th of each month!!!

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Red Oak Church of Christ
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporter

Greetings to our friends! On November 1st, one was restored to the faith. Bro. Hyder is sending out the gospel by air wave from the Marshall, N. C. radio station WBBM, about 1460 on your dial. Try to tune him in.

The next singing among the churches of Christ in this area will be at the Red Oak church December 3rd at 3:00 in the afternoon. Come if possible.

LEXINGTON, N. C.
14 Oak Avenue

The congregation at Lexington, North Carolina is soliciting support for a full-time evangelist to work with the congregation there. If any congregation wishes to send an evangelist or help support one it would be greatly appreciated.

The church in Lexington has a suitable meeting place and a preacher's residence. The present contribution covers the monthly payment on the church property and other incidental expenses. This is the only congregation in Davidson County, and thus offers a splendid field for a full-time minister of the gospel.

If any congregation or evangelist is interested, please write immediately to the Lexington Church of Christ, 14 Oak Avenue, Lexington, N. C., for complete information. May we hear from you soon?

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
On the Plaza
T. A. Isaacs, Evangelist
Reported by David Rickelton

During the month of October the Plaza church began additional classes, during the week. The ladies of the congregation meet on Thursday mornings for Bible study, and are studying the book "Glorifying God." A class for the men of the congregation meets each Monday night and is presently studying the book by Bro. B. B. Baxter, "Speaking For The Master," among other things.

Bro. Isaccs held a meeting at the West Columbia church, October 5-11. There were 7 responses.

In preparation for our annual December meeting to make plans for the work of the congregation next year, the men of the congregation met recently to hear a report by the Deacons on the present status of our work program. Much has been accomplished this past year, but so much more needs to be done. It is anticipated that our plans for next year will include an ambitious missionary program.

Our attendance at the Sunday morning services has averaged close to 200 for the months of September and October. Contributions continue well above budget requirements. Our Sunday evening services have been changed to 6:30 instead of 7:30 P. M. An increase in attendance of approximately 15% has resulted.

CHARLOTTE continued:

Our brethren continue to assist other congregations in the area by preaching, when we are called upon. There are 9 men in the congregation who are capable of doing this type of work. Recently, Bro. R. L. Dodson preached in Lancaster, S. C., Bro. Rudy Cribb, in Albemarle, N. C., and Bro. David Rickelton in Kannapolis, N. C.

Three precious souls have been baptized into Christ recently and one has placed membership with us.

TRYON, N. C.
Box 1055
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

James Woodroof presented the truth in a most splendid way in a meeting in Tryon, October 19-27. Five to ten non-members were present for almost every service, with a total of more than twenty different non members attending during the meeting. Three obeyed the gospel. This new family in the church will be of much help.

Interest and contributions seem to be on the increase. Contributions have averaged just over $ 44.00 per week for the past two months. As several in the congregation are quite elderly, there are only three of the active men members who are employed.

NOTE FROM NEWS EDITOR--

Some reports are printed in this issue which came in after the deadline last month. If we overlook a few, forgive us.

TRACTS FOR SALE

Why Not Be Just A Christian? Author unknown. A classic on this subject.
12 for $ 1.00; 100 for $ 4.00
500 - $ 18.00; 1000 - $ 30.00.

Dangers of the Gospel. by C. W. Bradley. Reprint of an article appearing in a past issue of this publication.
12 for $ 1.00; 100 - $ 3.50;
500 - $ 16.00; 1000 - $28.00

Dead, Buried, and Raised With Christ. by Burl Curtis. Reprint of an article appearing in a past issue of Messenger.
12 - $ 1.00; 100 - $ 3.50;
500 - $ 16.00; 1000 - $ 28.00.

Historicity of Churches. by B. F. Miller. Accurate data regarding origins of present day denominations. Eye-opener.
12 - $ 1.00; 100 - $ 3.50;
500 - $ 16.00; 1000 - $ 28.00.

PRINTWORK

Baptismal Certificates. 7 x 10 Printed, good quality bristol, with lithographed border and advice for young Christians on back. Valuable and beautiful gift for the new convert.
Each .25; 25-$3.50; 50-$6.00.

Zinc Halftone Cuts.
One column wide - $ 2.00; two columns $ 4.00. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Letter Heads, Stationery.
500 - $ 5.00; 1000 - $ 8.50.
Depends on amount of work and quality of paper. Send sketch and state quality of paper desired for definite price.

Envelopes
Size # 10; 500 - $9.50; 1000 - $16.50.

Front Page Cover for Church Bulletins. One-half of standard 8½ x 14 page, your own layout and design. Price includes paper, but no changes from month to month. First 500 for $ 10.50, $ 5.50 for each additional 500 sheets. Post. paid.

Advertisement Rates For Back-Cover of Messenger of Truth. First come, first served. One half page - $10.00, full page - $15.00. Inside pages, ½ page - $ 8.00, full page $12.50.

GOD'S MINORITIES!

During the time that Noah was building the ark, he was very much in a minority, but he won!

When Jospeh was sold into Egypt by his brothers, he was a decided minority - but he won!

When Gideon and his three hundred followers with their broken pitchers and lamps put the Midianites to flight, they were in an insignificant minority - but they won!

When Elijah prayed down the fire from heaven, and put the prophets of Baal to shame, he was in a notable minority - but he won!

When Jesus Christ was crucified by the Romans soldiers he was a conspicuous minority, but he won!

-Adapted via Gospel Digest

EDITORIAL

B. Edward Davis, News Editor

This issue of the Messenger is the twelfth since the first one rolled off the press, in January of this year. This means that, when the end of this month comes, the Carolina Messenger of Truth will have been in existence for one full year. On the eve of this our first birthday, several things should be mentioned.

In the first place, sincere words of gratitude must be extended unto all of you in both North and South Carolina who have stood by us and encouraged us during the past year. We speak the truth when we say that, without your support and approval of the work we have been trying to do, this publication would have long ago passed out of existence. May we therefore take this opportunity to express a heartfelt "Thank you," unto all of you who have offered helpful criticism, suggestions, and assistance to this undertaking. We want you to know that your interest has been an inspiration to us, and we hope one day to be worthy of the trust you have placed in us.

Then, secondly, let us also remind you that your subscription may expire in the very near future. Some of you sent in your subscription with the very first issue, and you will need to renew right away. We urge you to do it today, and

EDITORIAL continued:

not miss a single issue. Many of you look upon the Messenger as an integral part of the co-operative activities of the brethren in these two states, and we believe you will want to make sure your subscription continues without interruption or termination. So don't delay, renew -- today!

A SPECIAL INVITATION!

The editorial and publication staff of the Messenger takes pleasure in extending to each of you a cordial invitation to attend a general meeting of all our friends, on December 14th in Charlotte, N.C. At this meeting, you will hear reports regarding the present status and future plans of our journal, and be given an opportunity to ask questions and offer comments regarding both. Everyone who is interested in seeing a publication of this type succeed and expand is invited, yea urged, to be present. We would especially like to see the officers and ministers of the various congregations in attendance.

We are to meet at the Park Plaza Cafeteria, about 4 miles south of downtown Charlotte at 1:00 P. M. Monday, Dec. 14th. We will dine first, and have our meeting after the meal. Each individual will buy his own dinner. Make your plans now to attend. Bring your car full!! You will enjoy it.

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Augusta Road Church of Christ, Greenville, S. C.

January 1960

EDITORIAL

Charlotte Meeting

On Dec. 14 a meeting was held in Charlotte, N. C. regarding the Carolina Messenger of Truth. We were all very well pleased with the interest shown. Approximately 42 people from both states were in attendance and we believe that good for the paper will be seen in the coming months. Those who came have now a better knowledge of the difficulties under which the publication has been maintained this first year. Bro. John Avants, the publisher, again publicly stated his great determination to see the continuation of Messenger.

We Get Letters, Too

"Yesterday's meeting (the Charlotte meeting) was truly one of fine fellowship. I feel that good was done that will later be revealed in behalf of the Messenger. Again, may I express thanks to you for a job well done as the editor of the paper for the difficult first year--also for the good way in which you led the meeting yesterday." (Thank you for these kind words and don't you agree that we have a very fine group of people to work with in both Carolinas? - Editor).

Policy and Participation

As editor of the Messenger, I have tried to follow a "fair play, big ears and little mouth" policy. As volume one will always show I have not ridden the editorial horse to complain either about our financial difficulties or the lack of participation by some. I do think you should know that in my department there has always been enough material available. For this I am very grateful to the staff writers and others who have contributed articles. But in the news, Bro. Ed Davis' department, we have never had the fullest cooperation. We CANNOT print it unless it is sent in. We have not received one news item from some congregations during all of 1959. Remember the most remote place in the Carolinas is as close as the nearest. The distance is one 4¢ stamp. This is absolute "fair play." We print what we receive and the cost to send your news is a postage stamp.

GOAL - 1,000 New Subscribers

We want to increase our circulation by 1,000 as quickly as possible. Do you not agree that the Messenger is worthy of a greater circulation? There is no reason to ask Bro. Avants to keep bearing the financial burden when we CAN increase the circulation. How many subscriptions will you be responsible for? Who will obtain 100? Who will promise to get 50 or 25? You surely can obtain 5 new subscriptions for the paper? Remember, it is not the "big deal" that gets the job done many times; it is the one that counts, too. If every reader will turn in only one new subscription plus his own renewal, the goal can be reached. Let's reach this goal in the next 60 days.

FRONT COVER PICTURE

Augusta Road meeting house, Highway 29 South, Greenville, South Carolina.

Vol. II No. I
CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH, Published monthly at 205 East Main St. Easley S. C.
Entered as second class matter at Post Office at Easley, S. C., under Act of Congress March 3, 1879

EIGHT YEARS IN RETROSPECT

MAGAZINE FOR TEENAGERS

Hundreds of subscriptions are coming in for the TEENAGE CHRISTIAN, a new monthly magazine for ages 12 to 20.

Tremendous interest is being shown for this publication. Batsell Barrett Baxter says, "I feel that we have long neglected our teenagers and that there is certainly a place for such a publication. I believe that it will do a great deal of good." There are magazines for every age group in the church except teenagers.

The first issue of the TEENAGE CHRISTIAN will appear in January, 1960, on a special theme: "Teenagers Can Be Christian," which emphasizes positive living for youth. Articles such as "You Can Be A Christian and Date," by P. D. Wilmeth, "You Can Have Fun," by Wyatt Sawyer, "You Can Be A Champion," by Bobby Morrow, "Taking Christ To Class," by James O. Baird, and other articles written by Carl Spain, Don Shackelford, L. H. Channing, Rob Pitts and many teenagers, will appear in the first issue.

(Note: This article was sent by James Woodroof. We notice that Paul Faulkner, formerly of Fayetteville, N. C., is on the writing staff. We encourage you to subscribe. Price - $2.50 per year. For further information write: Teenage Christian 734 E. N. 15th., Abilene, Texas. -Ed.)

Please include pictures of interest to the church with your news reports. We will also appreciate pictures that may be used for the front cover.

Dabney Phillips
Chester, S. C.

It seems but as a yesterday, rather than January 1952, when we moved to Columbia, S. C. Upon arrival the information was obtained that the congregations numbered 16 in South Carolina. Perhaps it will be of interest to some of our readers to note the progress of the church in many cities of S. C. since 1952.

Let us begin with Columbia, the capital city of the state. The three congregations were all meeting in small frame, out of the way, meeting houses. If you were to visit the church today in Columbia you would see three attractive brick church buildings well located.

Eight years ago there was one congregation in the city of Charleston, S. C. and today there are three. Indications are that the church is growing in that port city. Greenville, S. C. has the honor of being the only city in the Carolinas with four congregations that are faithful to the Lord. In 1952 Judson and Central were the congregations. Buncombe Rd. (formerly Central) and Augusta Rd. both have attractive houses in which to worship.

Since 1952 new houses of worship have been erected in Beaufort, Camden, Georgetown, Greenwood, Orangeburg, Seneca, Sumter, Williston, Chester and Duncan. During 1960 the following will occupy new buildings, the Lord willing: Union, Rock Hill and perhaps others.

To many it seems that the church grows slowly, but in looking back at just eight years it is good to note the tremendous progress that has been made. The future is bright, and no one knows what will be accomplished for the Lord in the next eight or ten years. We believe that the spirit-

(See page 8)

SIN of INDIFFERENCE

Frank R. Milton
Albemarle, N. C.

In order to express the power of language a poet once said, "Words are the signs of ideas". With regard to our subject the word indifference may convey different ideas to different people. A person who is indifferent is one who is unconcerned, incurious, aloof, detached and disinterested. Perhaps the most evident case of indifference on record is recorded in Rev. 3:15-16. "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So because thou art lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spew thee out of my mouth." These people were certainly indifferent. In short they would not take a stand for Christ and his way.

Since it is so easy for a person to drift into a state of being unconcerned or disinterested, the Lord has given many admonitions to take a positive stand for him. In the Ephesian letter the apostle Paul tells us to "put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Eph. 6:11. In Matt. 10:22 Jesus tells us "...he that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved". The word "endure" here comes from the Greek word "upomeno" which means to remain absolute under all conditions. It is Jesus' way of saying to us that we must never fall into a condition of heartless, careless indifference. The apostle Paul, in writing about the resurrection, a hope which is the basic impeller of every Christian, tells us in conclusion, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15: 58.

The Lord did not simply tell us to be actively engaged in work and burden bearing without giving us some examples. Who could read the case of the three Hebrew children in the fiery furnace without being deeply impressed with their conviction? They faced a most horrible death and yet they dared to tell the king, "We have no need to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace; and he will deliver us out of thy hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee O king that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up." Dan. 3:17-18. When Peter and John were commanded not to preach or teach in the name of Jesus they answered, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to hearken unto you rather than unto God, judge ye; for we cannot but speak the things which we saw and heard". Acts 4:19.

But many religious people today are very much like the indifferent multitudes which followed only for the "loaves" and "fish". The critics of John and Jesus are typical. Because John the Baptist lived in the wilderness, unlike other people, they said, "He hath a demon". Matt. 11: 18. However, because Jesus did eat and drink like others they changed their argument and said, "Behold, a gluttonous man and a winebibber". Matt. 11:19. They are a very good example of indifference.

Those who become indifferent to God in this world, will wind up in a place that is certainly indifferent to this world.

DON'T LET YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRE. The number after your name tells you the last month you will receive the paper. Why not subscribe two years in advance?

WHOSE GIFT IS ACCEPTABLE ?

Bob Plunkett
Spartanburg, S. C.

We as Christians should be more concerned about the acceptableness of our own gift than we are about how much or how little we give. It seems that the mistake has been that of putting too much emphasis on the object rather than the subject. "God looketh on the heart." Your gift may please the church and it may please self but does it please God? In fact it may be an abomination unto him. Let us consider.

In Gen. 4:4 we read, "And God had respect unto Able and his offering but unto Cain and his offering he had not respect." In Heb. 11:5 God tells us that Able's sacrifice was more excellent. I believe there are two obvious conclusions to be drawn from this. One, God does not accept everything that man gives or dedicates to him. Second, God has the sovereign right to accept or reject any man's gift. Certainly this should disillusion any of us who supposes that God accepts and is glad to get any thing we throw into the collection plate. Cain gave a good gift but had the idea that just because he gave it God would accept it. The primitive idea originating in Cain's mother and father that God does not mean what he says and that we can give as we will and it is acceptable is flourishing among us today. Able, on the other hand, gave by faith. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. Therefore Able gave as God asked. Able's sacrifice was seasoned with submission to God's will. Cain's sacrifice was seasoned with self will.

Let's consider another unacceptable gift. In I Sam. 15 Saul was commanded to go down and destory the Amalekites, man, woman, sheep, and oxen. He knew how to execute God's plan. He disregarded God's law. He spared the king, the fatlings of the sheep and oxen that he might give them in sacrifice to the Lord. Some modern day socialists would say, "What a noble thought". But God said through Samuel, "To obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubborness is as idolatry". God wants our submission, not our charity. This was probably one of the most lavish gifts ever offered to God but it reflected gross disobedience. We must recognize that God wants us to say, "Thy will be done". Saul's intentions were good and his gifts were magnificent but his attitude was wrong.

Jesus said to the Pharisees, "Ye tithe mint, anise, cummin but ye have left undone the weightier matters of the law". They were giving in hypocrisy. They robbed widows' houses. They practiced all manner of injustice. They had forgotten the meaning of justice, mercy, and faith which is the mark of a money mad people, and yet they wanted to be recognized as keepers of the law in their giving. God does not accept any man's gift until he is washed both inside and out. There is a difference in being whitewashed and in washed white. God doesn't accept dirty money under the guise of lawful giving.

God wants first place in our lives. In Mal. 1:8 we read, "When ye offer the blind for sacrifice... the lame and sick, is it not evil? Present it now unto thy governor, will he be pleased with thee? ... Neither will I accept an offering at your hands. But cursed be the deceiver who hath in his flock a male and voweth and sacrificeth unto the Lord a blemished thing for I am a King." (See verses 10 and 14). "For ye rob me this whole nation." Mal. 3:9. How were they robbing God? They were giving. This very principle

(See page 8)

God's Forgotten Son

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

"What did you learn in Bible class this morning?", we asked our little girl, Susan, on our way home from worship a few months ago. "This is the Bible verse I learned," she answered, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only FORGOTTEN Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Susan had not learned the right word, but we must all agree that she expressed a sad truth. GOD'S SON IS FORGOTTEN BY MANY TODAY.

God's Son is forgotten in the individual lives of many today. Thousands live as if God never had a son. To them the principles of Christ mean nothing. Satisfying their own personal desires is their main goal in life. There is no room in their hearts and lives for the Son of God.

God's Son is forgotten in many homes today. His name is never mentioned in thousands of homes. Even in homes of many who profess to be his disciples, the name of Christ is seldom mentioned. And in some where his name is mentioned occasionally, he is still forgotten as far as having any influence. His principles are completely ignored. One day Jesus went home with a man and ate with him. This visit by our Lord changed the life of Zacchaeus. Millions need to let Christ come into their homes. The big reason for the many broken homes today is that God's Son has been forgotten.

God's Son is forgotten in many businesses today. Even many who sing on Sunday, "O How I Love Jesus," go to work on Monday and forget that Jesus ever lived. They forget that Jesus said, "All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them." (Matt. 7:12). Many have forgotten that Jesus promised that the material needs of life will be provided to those who will "seek first the Kingdom of God". (Matt. 6:33). Thus they forget the Kingdom of God while seeking first the material things of this world.

God's Son is forgotten in many schools and colleges of our land. Many of the colleges and universities of America were founded by people who believed in the Son of God. Today some of these very schools are dedicated to the task of destroying the faith of young people. Many professors in these schools deny that Christ is God's only Begotten Son. They have forgotten that God has a Son.

God's Son is forgotten in society today. People generally talk much about many things, but many say very little or nothing about God's Son. Even many who claim to believe in him and follow him appear to be somewhat ashamed to admit it. Once a woman said to me, "It isn't polite to talk about religion in public." Will someone please tell us what makes polite conversation? Actually, much that people talk about is of very little importance. People talk a lot about the weather, but what can they do about it?

God's Son is forgotten in many nations today. Millions do not have the freedom to build houses of worship and meet any time they wish to remember God's Son. Even the very idea of God is discouraged in some nations. Some believe that as long as man retains in his mind the idea of God, he will never become strong and powerful. Thus they wish to completely forget God and the Son of God.

God's Son is forgotten in many religious circles today. Human theories, traditions, forms and rituals are often substituted for the word of God's Son. What if Jesus should literally walk into some of the pre-

(See page 9)

WOMEN'S COLUMN — WARNINGS

Mrs. Minnie Cagle
Greenville, S. C.

Why do we have warning signs on the highways? They are to warn us of approaching dangers. We might be killed if we take no heed to these warnings. Highway warnings are not hard to understand.

We have warnings all through the Bible. The books of Jude and Second Peter paint us a dark picture if we fail to heed the warnings. "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; and spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemning them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly..." II Pet. 2:4-6.

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him, God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?" Heb. 2:1-4.

"Wherefore as the Holy Ghost saith, To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: when your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said They shall not enter into my rest. Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." Heb. 3:7-12.

"Of whom we have many things to say and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat." Heb. 5:11,12.

"For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins... He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?... It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Heb. 10:26-31.

"See that ye refuse not him that speaketh: for if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven... Let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire." Heb. 12:25-29.

What more warnings do we want? If we fail to heed we are without excuse and must suffer. Jude in Jude 24 commends us to "him that is able to keep you from falling..."

OUR GOAL - 1,000 New Subscriptions!!!!
Won't you help us reach this goal?

WHOSE GIFT (cont'd from page 5)

will, if we are not careful, send more church members to torment than any of the foregoing reasons. God will not accept any gift of something that we do not need such as a sick lamb or a sick offering. Seek ye first the kingdom.

Jesus approved the gift of the poor widow who cast in two mites, and Jesus said that she had given more than they all. Jesus was not impressed with what she gave but what she had left. The others gave of their abundance; she gave because she wanted to give. Her gift was acceptable because it was given sacrifically. She gave up something else in order to cast in two mites. Her gift was acceptable because she gave her all. Paul said, "Present your body a living sacrifice".

Is God accepting your gift? Are you living a life of obedience to his will? Is your life clean and pure? And your money honestly earned? Are you giving God first place? Have you given yourself? "Where a man's treasure is there will his heart be also."

EIGHT YEARS (cont'd from page 3)

ual progress of the church has kept abreast with the material progress. In this growth we are thankful to God for his goodness to us.

We would like to print a similar article about North Carolina if someone would take the time to write it and send it to us. There are now 51 congregations in South Carolina and we are sure the growth in North Carolina has been as great or greater. What will the next 5 years bring? Let us not aim too low! You can't shoot high when you aim low. Will there be twice as many churches in these two states by the end of 1965. The Lord will do his part; the rest depends upon us!

NOTICE!!

Please remember to notify us when you plan to move. We want you to receive all issues of the Messenger. Can any of our readers give us the correct address of the following?

Mrs. C. W. Hollingsworth 5-60
5321 S. 5th. Ct.
Birmingham, Ala.

Mr. R. C. Thompson 3-60
923 Confederate Ave.
Columbia, S. C.

Mrs. J. B. Gore, Sr. 4-60
916 Buford Place
Nashville, Tennessee

If you know the present address of any of these, please send it to the Messenger office.

A GREAT DIFFERENCE

Two persons went to the morning worship. One arrived before the service began, took his seat quietly and devoted himself to meditation and prayer. About this time the other was just leaving home. The first stood and sang with feeling, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," while the other just arriving, stood outside to chat with another late-comer.

During the reading of God's word and prayer the first person listened attentively and worshipped in spirit and in truth. The other waited outside the door for the break in the service when late-comers are seated.

True, both were present at the service on Sunday morning. One left knowing God intimately. He had gone to worship. The other had gone to church.

-- Selected and Adapted

FORGOTTEN SON (cont'd from page 6)

sent-day religious services? Do you think he would receive a warm welcome into services where the preachers are denying the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection, the Atonement, the Second Coming, the Judgment, and Heaven and Hell? Some have recommended that all songs containing any mention of the blood of Christ be removed from their song books. Think of all those who meet to do that which they believe to be true worship who seldom, if ever, partake of the Lord's Supper. In instituting this memorial, Jesus said, "This do in remembrance of me." (I Cor. 11:23). Truly, God's Son has been forgotten.

God's Son is forgotten by some today who plead for a complete return to the Lord's way. Many such people seem to have forgotten what the Lord taught on such matters as giving, forgiving, loving the brethren, helping the poor, feeding the hungry, teaching the lost, praying, trusting and relying on God in times of trouble, and many other things. Some have so much hatred and bitterness in their hearts toward their brethren that they cannot possibly remember the Lord. They are "holding a form of godliness, but having denied the power thereof..." (II Tim. 3:5).

God's Son is forgotten by some today who in years gone by were very much in love with him. They were proud to confess his name before men and to be buried by baptism into his death. For a period of time, perhaps for several years, they "walked in newness of life". "They went on their way rejoicing." But now "they walk no more with him". They have "made shipwreck of the faith". They have "become entangled again in the defilements of the world". They have forgotten God's Son.

What a tragedy to forget God's Son. He is the world's only Savior! He is man's only hope. He left heaven for us. He lived for us. He died for us. He yearns to save us. YET SO MANY HAVE FORGOTTEN HIM. HAVE YOU?

Words and Works

If you should go away from home,
To visit far away,
But just because you love your wife,
You write her every day;
And then in time, returning home,
To find her at the door,
And with a smile and pretty words,
She tells you o'er and o'er,
How much she loves and thinks of you;
How glad she is you're back:
And then you see your letters there,
Tied neatly in a stack;
Would you believe she is sincere,
When not a word was read?
You really think that you were missed,
And thought of all she said.

When Christ ascended from the earth,
He said he went away;
Because of his great love he would,
Return for us someday.
So when he comes back to the earth,
We meet him at the door;
And with a smile and pretty words,
We tell him o'er and o'er;
How much we love and honor him,
While in his face we look;
And then he sees upon the shelf,
His word, that precious Book;
Will he believe we are sincere,
When not a word was read;
His word, untouched, unloved, unlearned,
What matter words we said?

By - Madeline Callahan Brown
Inspired by James A. Davis in a sermon at Valdese, N.C. on Dec. 13, 1959.

NEWS

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

On January 3rd, the Northeast congregation in Greenville will meet for the first service. The brethren have obtained the use of the United Commercial Travelers building, on Greenacre Road, near Pleasantburg Shopping Center. We are blessed with having a building with an auditorium seating approximately 200, with five additional rooms for Bible classes. A nucleus of approximately 15 members will form the initial work force, and plans now call for a full schedule of worship services and Bible study from the beginning.

On the second Sunday in January, a singing is scheduled. All are invited and urged to attend. There is a real need for this congregation in Greenville, and we solicit the prayers and support of Christians throughout this area who are interested in witnessing the growth of the Lord's kingdom in this vicinity. Come and be with us whenever you can.

SENECA, S. C.
706 Adams Street
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

Even though the last two Sundays in December were away below our average, in contribution and attendance, our records for 1959 are going to show much growth and progress. Last year our offering averaged $ 61.02. At the present time, our contribution

SENECA continued:

is just over $ 100 per Sunday, and attendance is increasing as well. Two improvements are now being planned for our physical facilities, which should prove to be of much assistance to us. Eight new road signs are to be erected in the near future, and our baptistry, which now leaks, is to be lined with fiberglass. These things should have been done long ago, but have been delayed because of insufficient funds. We look forward to 1960 with much eagerness, trusting in the Lord for more progress and greater victories for Christ.

SUGGESTIONS FOR REPORTING NEWS!
by B. Edward Davis, News Editor

Someone has well said that good journalism is an art. Each of us, we are sure, is interested in seeing the very best, in this publication. Therefore, in keeping with our policy of trying constantly to improve, may we offer the following suggestions in reporting the news from your area of work:

(1) Try to make your reports as brief, but yet as complete as possible. Omit nothing of any importance, but include nothing that is unnecessary.

(2) Please keep in mind the deadline for submitting your article, and the publication date of the journal. Be specific in mentioning dates, and remember that your news item will not appear in the Messenger until next month.

(3) Remember that this periodical will be read by many, so make every effort to contribute to the good impression we seek.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Brooks Avenue
Robt. R. Carrell, Evangelist

I have been with the church in Raleigh since August 6th, and have thus far enjoyed the work very much. At the present time, we are having two Sunday morning services, both of which are being broadcast over radio station WSHE, 570 on the dial. On the first broadcast, the first fifteen minutes are not on the air. Our Sunday morning services are at 8:45-9:45, 10:00-10:45, and 11:00-12:00. The combined attendance at the two worship services is approximately 150. We feel very fortunate in having this amount of radio time. Our first broadcast is paid time but the second broadcast is a public service program.

The church here plans to expand its present facilities with the erection of an 8-classroom wing, and an extension of our auditorium. The new auditorium will allow us approximately two times the present seating capacity. This expansion will be all the present property will allow. The architect hopes to complete the plans this week, with construction to begin within the next few weeks.

At the North Carolina state fair, held here in Raleigh this year from October 13-17, we had a booth from which we gave out some 3000 tracts, showed the Jule Miller film strips, and enrolled about 90 for our free Bible correspondence course, and for a home showing of the film strips. The brethren here were enthusiastic about this work. I

RALEIGH continued:

believe it will be done again next year. Perhaps we will have a larger booth, and have other congregations cooperating with us. This fall the Raleigh congregation had the best attended gospel meeting in its history. The average for the 10-day series was 91.5. Shortly after our meeting, we began a work among the colored people in Raeigh by conducting a tent meeting with Brother Jechonias Williams preaching. Bro. Williams has been hired by the church to work on a full-time basis. During the colored meeting one man was baptized, and since the meeting, two or three others have been baptized, and another member has moved into the city. The colored brethren are presently meeting in the YMCA. We hope to hold one or two more tent meetings in the colored area of town next spring.

The Raleigh congregation is entirely self-supporting, with a weekly contribution approximating $ 275. The church here is blessed with many brethren of zeal, enthusiasm and leadership. Only a few of our members are over 50 years of age. There is much work to be done in this area, and the congregation will surely rise to meet the challenge.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
New Buncombe Road
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

Since our last report, two have placed membership, and one has been restored.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza at McClintock
T. A. Isaacs, Evangelist

On November 1st the church here began a change in time for the evening worship from 7:30 to 6:30 p. m. We hope this will help to increase attendance, as it will be easier for parents of small children to attend. There will also be an opportunity to visit after the close of the service. This change will continue through the winter months.

The month of November has been one in which God has richly blessed the church here. Five precious souls were buried with their Lord in baptism for the remission of sins, becoming sons of the Living God. One placed membership. The men's training class is off to a good start, with 14 men attending. The ladies' Bible class, which meet on Thursday, is also having good attendance. The Elders have just passed out new membership forms to be filled out by the members, supplying the officers with information regarding the work the members are able and willing to do. Brother Everett Ferguson, the Dean of Northeastern Institute for Christian Education, spoke here on Sunday night, Dec. 27th. Bro. Ferguson is the son-in-law of Bro. Byrd R. Lewis, an Elder of the church in Gastonia.

CHESTER, S. C.
135 Saluda Street
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

During November, monthly attendance records were established by the Chester church for the Sunday morning Bible study, Sunday and Wednesday evening worship periods. Eight have been baptized thus far in 1959. Our next gospel meeting will be in the spring with Newton Gribble as speaker. Last month it was a joy to preach in a meeting at Park Street, in Columbia, S. C., in which two were baptized. The fellowship on Dec. 14th of the friends of the "Messenger," in Charlotte, was most inspirational. Congratulations on the improved appearance of the Messenger of Truth.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
215 S. Seventeenth St.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Retrospection of the past year reveals a total of 20 responses here. Twelve were baptized, five moved in, and three were restored. The average attendance for the morning worship was 81. This is an increase of 20 % over '58. Contributions showed an increase of 15 % over '58. A bus was put into operation. Previous attendance records were broken for morning worship (108), evening worship (70), gospel meetings (79), and Vacation Bible School (104). A lectureship using ten different Carolina preachers greatly edified the church in March, and a very successful gospel meeting with Dabney Phillips was held in October. Bro. Sewell was engaged in five meetings away from Wilmington in which there were eleven responses. Our plans for 1960 include a meeting for the colored race of Wilmington, in which Quincy Carter of States

WILMINGTON continued:

ville will preach. T. Pierce Brown of Manchester, Tennessee will hold our spring meeting here during the last of May.

Congratulations to Bill Wilder and the Rocky Mount congregation as they begin using their new edifice.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Good attendance continues in Whiteville. Thanks very much to Johnny Sewell, Bill Jackson, and Corlis Scroggins, for providing the fine lessons during November and December. The two Nashville preachers, Jesse Melton and Virgil Hale, write that they have definitely decided to enter Wilson, N. C. sometime early in 1960. To my knowledge, Wilson represents, at the moment, the largest city in the entire nation in which no effort is being made to establish the cause of Christ, and we are indeed thankful to the Lord of Harvest that laborers are soon to enter this city of some 30,000 souls.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
54 Vance Street
Wayman Love, Evangelist

We are closing this year with record attendance at all services. The past two Lord's days, our attendance has been 94 and 97 at the 11 o'clock service.

One who recently moved here from Greenville, Tennessee, became identified with Vance St. last Lord's day.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
2 Marble Street, Judson
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

The work here is encouraging and we feel indebted to the Lord for his blessings. Since our last report, one has confessed wrong. In November our averages were good. Bible study on Sunday morning averaged 117 per Sunday and the worship services averaged 133. The contribution was the highest it has been this year. The average each Sunday was $ 189.75. Our building fund has grown to $ 3004.93. We look forward to a great year for the Lord in 1960. To that end we ask His blessings upon us and all members of the body of the Lord.

WAYNESVILLE, N. C.
L. A. Atkinson, Evangelist

After about January 18, 1960, we will be leaving the work here in Waynesville. The Lord willing, we will go back where we were about five years ago, to Allendale, S. C., and begin work with that congregation again.

We are looking forward to a pleasant work there, since we believe with all our hearts that we have many friends in that locality. The members there, 12 in number, are paying on a home for the preacher, and the church building is clear of debt.

VALDESE, N. C.
P. O. Box 72
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

The last Sunday in November, the church here met with the church in Hickory to hear the

VALDESE continued:

farewell sermon of Brother John Shoun, and to bid him God-speed in his new work. He has moved to Virginia to begin a new job of secular work. While there he will help with the work of the small congregation located in Pearisburg.

The church here in Valdese is in need of a full-time preacher, and anyone interested in the work here may write the church, box 72, Valdese, N. C. Adequate support will be furnished, together with a nice home located on the same lot with the church building.

On December 23rd, Brother G F. Raines, of Celina, Tennessee, will speak for us, and consider locating here. Our former evangelist, James A. Davis, moved to Hendersonville, N. C. on January 1st.

TRYON, N. C.
P. O. Box 1055
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

After five years of pleasant work in Tryon, my family and I plan to begin work with the Augusta Road church in Greenville, S. C., January 1st.

Tryon has not yet obtained another preacher. They are in contact with a number of men who are interested in working here. Some of them have been scheduled to speak in Tryon during January of 1960.

Nine years ago, the first Sunday in January, this congregation met for the first time. Progress has been slow but quite steady from the beginning. As a result of the combined efforts

TRYON continued:

of many, seven were baptized and two were restored in the past year.

CHEROKEE, N. C.
(Adapted from an article by Bro. Chester Hunnicutt, in "Christian Chronicle.")

On July 5th of this year some 66 workers began an endeavor to carry the Gospel of Christ to the Cherokee Indians for the first time in history. After much consultation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D. C., a tent was erected in Cherokee, where 346 Indians assembled to hear Bro. Hunnicutt preach. The 65,000 acres on the reservation were covered with intensive personal visitation and Bible classes. A total of about 6,800 pounds of good used clothing was distributed. One Indian was baptized, and others were thought to be about ready. The church is now meeting in the Arts and Crafts Building in Cherokee. Bro. Bob Rigdon, from Sylva, N. C. is now preaching once a week, until Brother Hunnicutt begins regular work with them later. They have about $ 3400 on a building fund, but need about $ 25,000 to build an adequate building. For more information, contact Chester A. Hunnicutt, 606 Annapolis Avenue, Sheffield, Alabama.

PLEASE --

Send in your news reports no later than the 20th of the month preceding the issue in which you wish your article to appear. We can publish none received later.

RADIO AND TELEVISION GUIDE

"SUNDAY"

lerald of Truth:

VCOS, Columbia, S. C.	7:30 p. m.
VHAN, Charleston, S. C.	2:30 p. m.
VBTW, Chl. 8, Florence	11:30 p. m.
VUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 p. m.
VGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
VECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington	noon
VJMX	2:30 p. m.
VKIX	2:30 p. m.
VKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 p. m.
VLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 a. m.
VSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
VAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 p. m.
VFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
VHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
VJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 p. m.
VGNT, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 p. m.
VHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
VRRZ, Clinton, N. C.	2:30 p. m.

egular:

VDNC, Durham, N. C.	9:15 a. m.
VGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 a. m.
VTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380-	9:15 a. m.
VHIP, Mooresville, N. C.	4:30 p. m.
VACA, 1590	8:40 a. m.
VABZ, Albemarle, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
VBCU, 1460	9:00 a. m.
VEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
VSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.	9:30 a. m.
VBAW, 740, Barnewell, S. C.	10:00 a. m.
VGBR, Goldsboro, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
VSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
VSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
VENC, 1240, Whiteville, N.C.	1:45 p. m.
VSHE, 570, Raleigh, N. C.	9:00 a. m.
VSHE, 570, Raleigh, N. C.	11:00 a. m.

"TUESDAY"

VOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.

"THURSDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.
WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.	11:45 A. M.

"SATURDAY"

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.

"MONDAY-FRIDAY"

WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

We have no way of knowing if the radio and television listings herein are correct or if they are complete unless we hear from you.

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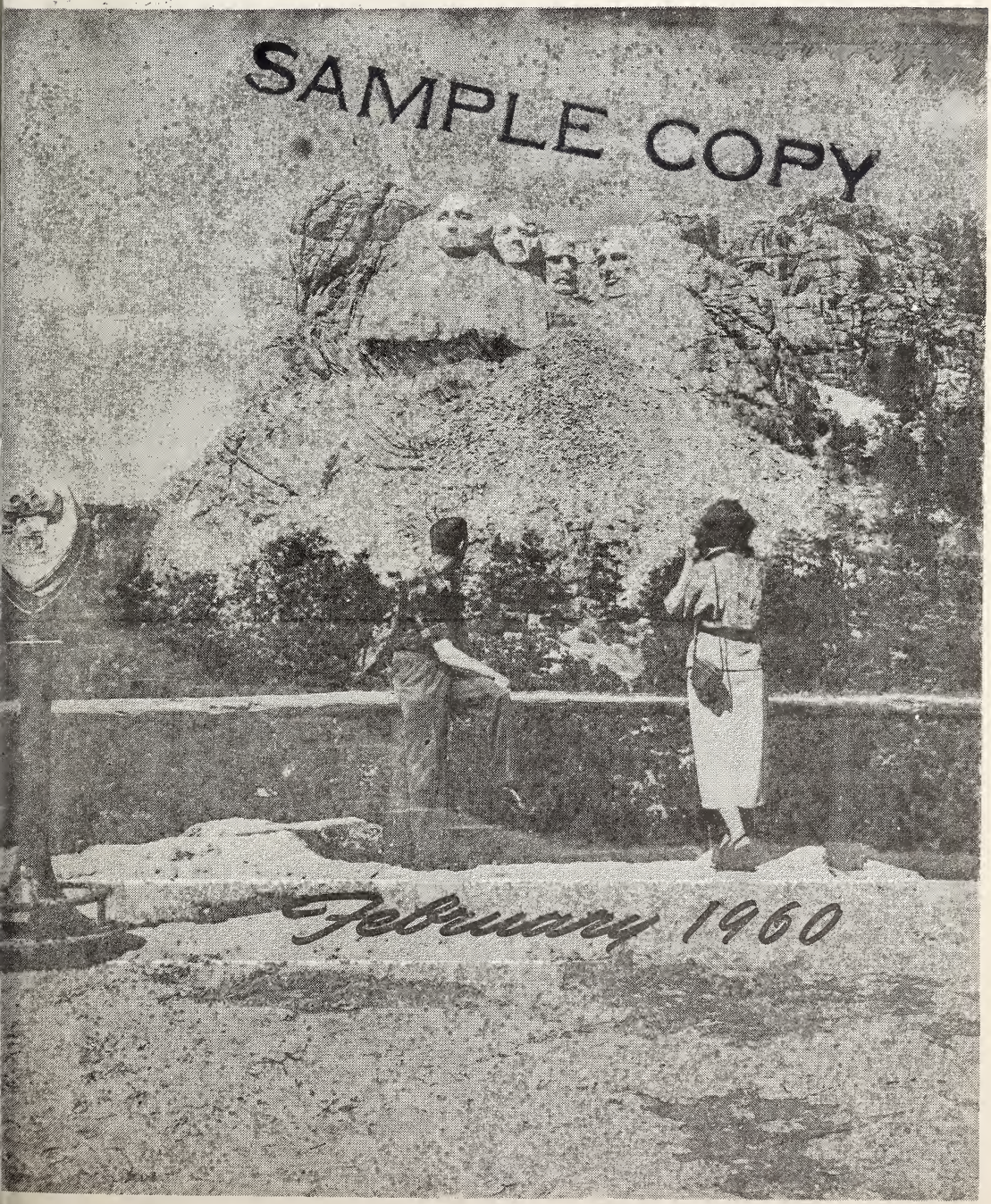
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EDITORIAL

PURPOSE OF PUBLICATION RESTATED

Although the Carolina Messenger of Truth is very young, we believe that it is necessary to state again the basic purpose of this publication. It is difficult to put into just a few words all we hope to accomplish by this work. Through the articles we hope to teach and admonish both saint and sinner; through the news we hope to encourage. Some have already begun to think of the Messenger as a paper of "first principles" only. It is more than that. It is a paper setting forth both first and last principles. It seems to us that a principle which will take us to heaven is a "last" principle. It shall always be, as for as God grants us the power, the policy of this paper to set forth a soul on his journey to heaven. Therefore, anything that will hinder such progress shall not appear within its covers. The items of news should not only encourage us but they should encourage churches outside the Carolinas to assist us in this great job of converting the tens of thousands of lost souls in these two states.

CONGREGATION SEES FIT TO TRIPPLE ORDER

We quote the following from a congregation in North Carolina - - "We have found the Messenger a fine publication to use in personal work and to acquaint our visitors with the church. Therefore, please tripple the number of copies you are now sending us."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"We received the January, 1960 issue of the Messenger, and I appreciate seeing the article from here. I want to commend you for the good work you are doing in publishing the Messenger. I believe that this is a very necessary tie for all the congregations in the Carolinas, in view of the fact that this is a mission area. In this work you are rendering a great service to all the congregations throughout the two states."

CIRCULATION INCREASE - GRADUAL

As you know, the Messenger was published at a financial loss last year. In order to remedy this situation we are pressing for 1,000 new subscriptions as soon as possible. Since the first announcement of this goal there has been an increase that could probably best be described as gradual. Have you renewed your subscription? Will you obtain some new subscriptions? Please see the back cover for the carious offers which are available to you.

FOURTEEN YEARS IN NORTH CAROLINA

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.



Just out of college and just married, my wife and I moved to Rockingham, North carolina with the idea of working one year with a congregation composed of a dozen Christians. That was January, 1946. Five years in Rockingham plus seven years in Statesville plus two years in Winston-Salem gave a total of fourteen years in North Carolina. Looking back over those years now, we are not sorry we gave up that one year idea.

Today the church is presenting as many radio programs in North Carolina as were congregations in the state in 1946. According to the best information that I have been able to secure, the church of the Lord was then meeting at the following places: Asheville, Marion, Hichory, Charlotte, Abilene (near Statesville), Corinth and Jericho (near Mocksville), Kannapolis, Greensboro, Durham, Newport Pike Road, Alexander, Wilmington, Rockingham, Feyetteville (soon ceased meeting), Winston-Salem, and Warner's Chapel (near Winston-Salem). There were also not more that a half dozen colored congregations.

In the Spring of 1946 we attended our first Carolina Lectureship. The program was held in a large warehouse in Winston-Salem. There we met the little handful of preachers laboring in the Carolinas. In North Carolina there were Chester Smelser in Marion, Emerson Flannery in Kannapolis, C. R. Franks in Charlotte, Burrell Prince at Abilene, Elam Kuykendall in Greensboro and Cecil Derryberry in Winston-Salem. C. R. Franks and Burrell Prince had just entered the state. Max Johnson soon came to work with the Warner's Chapel congregation.

"A new congregation has been established." Say this fifty times and you will have approximately the number of new congregations begun in North Carolina since 1946. This does not include the work among the colored people. The number of congregations among them has more than doubled during these years. There are almost as many self-supporting congregations in North Carolina today as there are days in the month of February.

If you have traveled over the state of North Carolina in 1946 hunting for church buildings owned by our brethren, you could have counted them on your fingers. However, you would have perhaps become discouraged and given up by the time you finished with one hand. Almost all the buildings were small, paint-faded frame structures located in very hard-to-find and run down sections of the cities.

In 1946 the South Main congregation in Winston-Salem began their new building. There have been very few months since then that a church building was not in progress somewhere in North Carolina. New buildings have been erected in the following places: Winston-Salem (2), Asheville, (2) Charlotte (2), Greensboro, Durham, Raleigh, Wilmington, Newport, Burlington, Jacksonville, Rocky Mount, Fayetteville, Boone, Wilkesboro, Lenior, Gastonia, Statesville, Abilene, Salisbury, Mocksville, Sylvia Kannapolis, Hendersonville, Marion, Mineral Springs, Dysartville, Tryon, Waynesville, Troy, Asheboro and High Point. New buildings will be completed soon in Goldsboro and Kinston. Buildings have been purchased in Lexington, Hickory, Valdese, Concord, Claredon and Aberdeen.

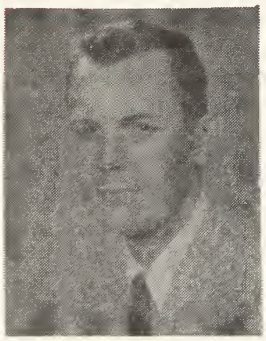
In the January issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth there appeared a very inspiring article by Brother Dabney Phillips on the progress made in South Carolina.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is

(Continued on page 7)

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Harold Scott
Statesville, N. C.



Have you ever wondered by what authority a preacher delivers his message? This question concerns us in a study of the "Great Commission" of Christ, for this is the world embracing call that all Christians are under today. All authority for gospel work lies in this commission. This is the last commission given by the son of God and will, if followed, convert the world to him.

The great commission is the reproductive principle of Christianity. If it is followed Christianity will grow, if neglected, as anything that does not reproduce itself disappears,so Christianity will disappear. This is the law of Christ for making men his disciples. Each Christian is under the obligation to "go into all the world and preach the gospel."

There are two important reasons for a restudy of the great commission. 1. Many Christians are failing to carry it out. 2. There are religious teachers who are changing the commission.

Read with me the four important statements of the great commission. It is stated in a little different language each time, but always teaches and commands the same gospel and obedience.

First in Matt. 28:19-20 'Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Mark: 16:15-16, "And he said unto them 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned."

Luke: 24:46-47, "And he said unto them, 'Thus it is written and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations beginning at Jerusalem."

John: 20:21-22, "Then said Jesus to them again, 'Peace be unto you; as my Father hath sent me, even so I send you,' and when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said unto them, 'receive ye the Holy Ghost."

When we collect the teachings of these four writers of the great commission we find that Christ sent his disciples into all the world, they were to preach the gospel and as a result of repenting, believing, and being baptized men were to be saved. Nearly all churches follow this teaching, as most churches teach that it is necessary to have faith, baptism and repentance to have salvation; but the dividing line and the cause of confusing among churches is the definition or arrangement of the four acts: 1. faith, 2. repentance, 3. teaching, and 4. baptism to have salvation.

Those who baptize infants arrange these acts thusly: 1. baptism, 2. teaching, 3. repentance, 4. faith, 5. salvation.

The majority of denominations arrange the same acts in this maner: 1. teaching, 2. repentance, 3. faith, 4. salvation, 5. baptism into the denomination.

Perhaps you are thinking that it makes little difference how we arange these acts of obedience. But consider the four letter word LIVE. If it is arranged E-V-I-L what a difference it would be. Arrangement makes the difference and arrangement of the great commission makes the difference between obeying the commands of Christ and following the traditions of men. See II John 9.

(Continued on page 6)

I AM A METHODIST, PRESBYTERIAN, ADVENTIST. . .

Noyles E. Sewell
Wilmington, N. C.



Yes, I am all of these, and yet I am only a Christian, nothing more and nothing less. I realize that there are large religious groups in existence which are designated by the names mentioned above. I am familiar with most of them through my experience as a member of either denomination itself, or the Sunday School conducted by it. My maternal grandfather was a preacher in a large denomination. My paternal grandparents were leaders in another denomination. I joined one of these at an early age and afterward attended Sunday School at the other. Later I enrolled in two other denominations, attending one regular for several months. After High School, I attended, for a short time, a large denominational university. My experince with different denominations leaves me with the memory of many honest, sincere and devoted religious people, and I must confess that from the time I learned many things that are taught by Christ and the Holy Apostles. But, I must also acknowledge that I now realize that in each of these denominations, and in every other denomination there are things taught and practiced that are not in harmony with the truth of God's word. I am no longer a member of any denomination, not simply because of the error in each of them, (which would be sufficient reason) but because I can have all of the truth to be found in any of them and yet be a member of none of them. It is the purpose of this article to show you that I can sincerely believe in what is implied in each of these denominational names and yet be only a Christian and not a member of any denomination.

1. I am a methodist. My dictionary tells me that a methodist (small m) is an observer of method or order. I believe that every Christian should answer this definition, because the bible teaches it. "Do all things decently and in order." I Cor. 14:40. I can be, and should be, a methodist in this sense and thus have all the good that is implied in the word "methodist", and yet not be a "Methodist" (capital M). To be a Methodist I would have to agree to be governed by the Methodist Discipline, which is a book of articles of faith, ritual and regulations governing the Methodist church. This I cannot do because the bible is an all-sufficient book (II Tim. 3:16-17). By it alone we must live, for, by it alone we must be judged. (John 12:48).

2. I am a presbyterian. A presbyterian (small p) is one who believes in the government of the church by presbyters. I strongly believe in the government, direction, leadership and guidance of the church by presbyters. Presbyter is simply the transliteration of the Greek word, presbuterous, which is generally translated, "elder". In I Tim. 4:14, the assembled eldership is indicated by the word, presbytery. The bible teaches that the local church is to be overseen by elders, presbyters, bishops, pastors; which are simply different terms indicating the same office or responsibility in the church (Acts 20:17-28, I Peter 5:1-4). In believing this, I have all the truth implied in the word "presbyterian" and yet I could never conscienciously be a Presbyterian (capital P). To be a Presbyterian I would have to join the Presbyterian church and subscribe to the doctrines set forth in the Presbyterian Confession of Faith. I would be asked to believe that sprinkling is baptism and that individuals are predestined to either heaven or hell, even

(Continued on page 7)

"YE KNOW NOT WHAT YE ASK"

C. C. Vaughan
Camden, S. C.

Like the mother of Zebedees children, there are those about us today that mis-understand Christ's purpose on earth and therefore ask for that contrary to God's will. Jesus is saying now as he did then, but indirectly, "Ye know not what ye ask." This mother wanted the wrong thing for her sons. She desired a certain thing not in the purpose of God to do or to have done. To mis-understand the purpose of Christ's coming to this earth is to mis-understand his mission here among men. Christ did not come to set up an earthly kingdom where by giving men the dignity and honor of ruling over such territory; but Christ came to establish a spiritual kingdom of which he alone is head and supreme overseer. His kingdom is the church. Matt. 16:18-19. The church is in the world but not of the world. Let us not contaminate ever, or confuse at any time, the true church with deniminations and their ungodly practices.

When Peter said, Lord it is good for us to be here: If thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: Matt. 17:4, he did not know what he was asking for. This was an attempt to insert human judgement into God's plan for the human race. This suggestion of peter was turned down by God when he overshadowed them and said this is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. God would not have human judgement and opinions of men in his work then and neither will he accept such now. To be justified in what ever we do religiously, all must abide by the decision of Christ through his word.

If you are now praying for the kingdom to come, you know not what you are asking for. The kingdom of Christ is here already. All who have obeyed the gospel of Christ are citizens in this kingdom. God hath delivered and translated us (the Christians) into that kingdom. Col. 1:13-14. To ask for Holy Ghost baptism now is to be ignorant of God's righteousness not knowing his will. We today are too late for Holy Ghost baptism. This promise has been fulfilled. Luke 24:46-59, Acts 1:4-8, Acts 2:1-4, Acts 10:44-48. Some ask for baptism of fire or in fire, this is asking for too much. All who don't obey the gospel will surely receive the fire baptism in the end, without asking for it. Matt. 3:11-12, II Thess. 1:7-9. No matter what is claimed by professing christians Christ will only accept and recognize those who doeth the will of his Father. Matt. 7:21-23.

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... COMMISSION (Cont'd from page 4)

Open your bible with me and let us study the arrangement of these acts by men who heard the preaching of the apostles, and remember, they are the one who first received the "Great Commission" from the Lord.

On the day of Pentecost, as recorded in Acts 2, Peter begins preaching guided by the Holy Spirit. 1. He preaches first. 2. As he preached Jesus the audience were pricked in their hearts -- 2. They believed the message evidently, and cried out "What must we do?" 3. Peter said, "Repent and be baptized unto the remission of your sins." Thus the first sermon preached under the authority of the great commission clearly illustrates the divine arrangement to be: 1. teaching, 2. faith that comes by hearing the word of God, 3. repentance, 4. baptism, 5. salvation or remission of past sins -- and we might add here that verse 47 says ... "The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

So, by the authority of Jesus and the

(Continued on page 7)

I AM ... (Cont'd from page 5)

before they are born and regardless of the kind of lives they live. This I cannot believe because it contradicts the word of God. I cannot be a Presbyterian but I am a presbyterian, and yet I am just a Christian and belong to no denomination.

3. I am an adventist. An adventist is one who lays special stress on the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every person who accepts the teachings of the word of God is an adventist, in that sense. Before his ascension Christ promised to return. (John 14:1-3) While he ascended, angels promised his return. (Acts 1:11) The writings of Paul are filled with references to the second coming. In Titus 2:13, the appearing of the Saviour is styled "the blessed hope" for which we look. I happily confess that the advent of Christ to claim his own is paramount on my horizon. I look forward with blissful expectation to the day in which I shall recieve a glorified, incorruptible body and be privileged to hear the voice of my Lord say, "Come ye blessed of my Father inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." I believe all the bible teaches concerning the advent of Christ, yet I am not a member of the "Adventist" denominations. To become an Adventist, in that sense, I would have to accept their peculiar doctrines relative to the soul of man, the destiny of the wicked, and the day of worship, all of which are false doctrine. I will remain an adventist (small a) and rejoice in the hope of Christ's coming and yet be simply a Christian, nothing more and nothing less. (TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE)

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... COMMISSION (Cont'd from page 4)

guidance of the Holy Spirit we must say... "Preach, or teach a man in order to produce faith in his heart, when he inquires 'What must I do to be saved?', tell him to repent and be baptized for the remission of his sins. Should he then ask, 'What church should I then join?' point out to him that the Lord has alreay added him to his church, and it is not necessary to join any denomination but to continue to practice Christianity and worship as a Christian, meeting with a group of simple New Testament Christians such as he is now.

Do other passages of scripture support this arrangement of the plan of salvation? Yes, all the examples of men and women being saved in the book of Acts follow this pattern. This is the new birth of John 3: 5 as Jesus taught Nicodemus. When we obey this great commission we become Christians ourselves, then labor to make others Christians also.

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FOURTEEN YEARS... (Cont'd from page 3)

like unto a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: which indeed is less than all seeds; but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becometh a tree."

Jesus also said, "The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a women took and hid three measures of meal, till it was all leavened."

Daniel pictures the kingdom as a little stone which would become a great mountian and fill the whole earth.

The kingdom of God is spreading in the Carolinas. The seed is being sown; the leaven is at work; the stone is rolling and is becoming larger every year. Truly, the church of the Lord is "on the march" in the Carolinas.

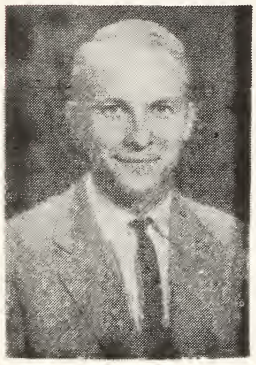
With humble and sincere hearts may all of us thank God for this progress. With an enlarged vision, may all of us look forward to the wonderful years ahead. May all of us dedicate ourselves anew to Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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If you are not receiving the "Messenger" promptly, or if you know of anyone not receiving it promptly, Please notify us immediately.

TEEN TOPICS - LET'S START A YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHORUS

James S. Woodroof
W. Columbia, S. C.



On January 11, 1960, in the city of Columbia, S. C. a crowd of 54 young people gathered for the sixth practice session of a young people's chorus composed of the three congregations in Columbia. This was the largest crowd and the most fruitful practice we have had yet. However, if I remember correctly, the smallest crowd we have had was 43, It has grown steadily since its beginning. I want to tell you about it and show you that you can begin just such a good work in your congregation, or combine your efforts by working with neighboring congregations.

Two months ago, what is now a wonderful reality was only an uncertain plan - a dream. Several of the young people of the city began asking me when the chorus that had been talked about for 18 months was going to begin. It was decided that the time was right, so we set a night on which to meet, About 45 young people met on that night in the West Columbia building. The crowd was a great encouragement; the singing was . . . well, the crowd was a great encouragement!!

Immediately after the singing, the whole group of 45 went to our home for refreshments and what an enjoyable evening it turned out to be! Each week now the practice is held at one of the three church buildings in town and afterwards we are always invited to the home of the members where several have helped prepare refreshments. I can't tell you how much it means to these young people (ages 12 yrs. and up) to have such a program of work.

And it is work. We don't come to play, though we do have a throughly good time working. We practice for an hour or more each night. Because it is an hour of chorus work, the young people enjoy it throughly. The first night they were more interested in the refreshments than singing. Now at six weeks later, that has reversed. They are more interested in the singing, and I have a hard time stoping them.

The progress that has been made is beyond description. You would have to hear them in order to believe it. They have sung like angels from the very first night. Of course, at first they sang like "the devil and his angels", but now their singing has a different ring to it altogether.

This is not a music class where we learn notes by studing notes; this is a chorus where you learn to sing by singing. Here is our course of action. We try to have one experienced adult voice in each section (soprano, tenor, bass, alto) to lead that particular part. At first simple songs, well known to all, were used. Now we are beginning to launch out into other songs and hymns. They're learning to love to sing.

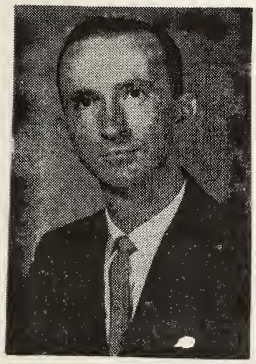
There are three purposes for this chorus - 1 (To provide the young people an opportunity to learn how to sing so they in turn can strengthen the congregation singing where they worship;) 2 (To provide an occasion for constructive fellowship and association,) 3 (To begin a definite work among the hospitals and "shut-ins" of the city in the form of singing.

"Oh, . but we never could do anything like that." But you can if you will. It only takes a fairly good leader but very willing young people. Why not begin a young people's chorus where you are?? It will pay rich dividens.

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PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS.

PREACHING NOW IN CAROLINAS



Robert R. Carrell who began work in Raleigh, N. C. is married to the former Juanita Jo Peace. They have three children: David Ray, 7, Rebecca Jo, 5, and Mark Randall, 1 1/2. Brother Carrell attended school at Indiana University, Abilene Christian College, and DePauw University. Before moving to Raleigh, he was working with the Ninth Avenue congregation in St. Petersburg, Florida. Other congregations with which he has worked full time are Bloomington, Illinois and Greencastle, Indiana. He taught in the Illinois Bible Encampment in 1958, the first year of its existence, and served as secretary on the board of director in planning its second years work. Brother Carrell has written two tracts for local church use: "The Eldership" and "Music in the worship".



Albert A. Gonce, Jr. has recently moved to Greensboro, N. C. to work with the West Wendover Ave. congregation. Bro. Gonce was born Feb. 4, 1913 at Gonce, Alabama and graduated from the David Libscomb High School in 1936. After recieving a B. A. degree in Social Science from Harding College in 1943, he attended the university of Alabama where he received a M. A. in speech in 1950. He worked toward a Ph. D. in Speech at the University of Missouri in 1951 and completed residence course work at Penn. State.

Bro. Gonce has had twelve years experience as a teacher in the schools of Tennessee and Alabama. From 1950-52 he was on the Harding College faculity and from 1957-59 he was Head of the Speech Department at Alabama Christian College.

He was married April 18, 1942 to Janie Sain and four children now adorn their home: Alberta, 15; Linda and Wanda, 12, (twins); and Alyne, 5.

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BOYS - GIRLS ! !

Another exciting two weeks of Carolina Bible Camp will be held this summer. You will not want to miss out on the fun of camp this year. It will be the best ever. And that is for sure.

Be sure and mark the dates on your calendar!

The date is August 14-20 and 21-27, 1960.

More complete information will come to you in the mail soon. But we knew you would want to know the dates early enough so you would not plan anything else.

- James S. McDonald, Jr.
Secretary

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MESSENGER MEETING

Get your "thinking caps" out of the moth balls and think of some ideas that will help to improve and make the Messenger a self-supporting publication. The date and time of the meeting (simular to the Charlotte meeting) will be announced in the near future.

NEWS

GASTONIA, N. C.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist

There were six baptisms and three restorations in Gastonia, in 1959. The church gave $12,447.66 for a weekly average of $239.38. The elders have proposed a budget for 1960 that calls for $264. per week. $600. of the new budget will go to help the expansion of the 'Herald of Truth' and is the largest sum ever spent by this congregation outside Gastonia to spread the gospel. The building which was begun in 1953 was completed in 1959 with the exception of minor details.

ANDERSON, S. C.
Barney Cargile, Jr., Evangelist
Phone CA 5-8645

The Anderson Church of Christ is in array for battle and with the sword of the Spirit is contending for the faith. Her aim has been clearly defined - the preaching of the gospel to every person in the city of Anderson and the glorifying for God through faithful Christian living.

Various goals have been set forth in accomplishing our aim, some of which have already been attained. In the past six months 4 were baptized and perhaps a score asking the prayers of the church for negligence and sin. The present meeting house has been sold for $5,000 and a lot was purchased on high-way 29 South. Construction of the building, which will be built of contemporary architecture, is to begin the Lord willing, the middle of January.

One goal of the church is that all Christians be a soul winner for Jesus. In the year 1960 every Christian is going to bring one person to Christ. It is believed that those who love the Lord and the souls of men can concentrate upon and bring someone to Christ. In addition to this, cottage classes are being conducted and the men of the church have volunteered to give one day a month in personal work as each ones time comes up, go with the preacher from house to house teaching and distributing tracts.

The field is truly white for harvest and it is hoped that a report of the gathering of part of the harvest can be given soon.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
P. O. Box 671
Fairview Congregation

A great deal of work has been done on our building recently. The concrete floors are finished and the partition walls have been built for the Bible study classes. We have also painted the walls inside and outside. During 1959 our record attendance was 42, with the contribution reaching a high of $79.40. This year the work is looking good and growth is in our favor. Thus far we have had three restorations and have organized three new Bible study classes. We are still in need of a regular preacher to work with us. If you should know of someone who would be interested please contact us.

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FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Oscar P. Craft, Reporting

The church at Fayetteville, North Carolina desires to obtain the services of a preacher. If anyone is interested in locating here, or knows of anyone who would be willing to locate here, please contact the church through this reporter, at 28-C Sicily Drive, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Fayetteville is a city of over 35,000 population, and there is a lot of work to be done here.

We enjoy receiving the Carolina Messenger of Truth. We think it is a very fine publication and pray for its success.

CAMDEN, S. C.
King Street Congregation
C. C. Vaughan, Evangelist

During 1959 the King Street congregation made the following progress:

There were six additions to the membership -- four by baptism, and two by transfer of membership from the state of Tennessee. One gospel meeting was conducted. The contribution broke all records made in the previous years, showing an average of $34.13 per week. Our highest offering for one week was approximately $65. The average attendance was 49 per week. Five Bible Classes are now being taught on Sunday morning, and one at the mid-week service. Our aim for 1960 is to do more toward spreading the gospel. We hope to conduct at least two meetings and try to purchase a tent. We have set a goal of 75 for morning worship. We shall try hard to teach and encourage at least ten persons to obey the gospel, that they may be added to the Lord's church. Please pray for us in our work, and visit us whenever possible.

CHESTER, S. C.
135 Saluda Street,
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

During 1959 the Chester congregation averaged weekly: 26 in classes, 28 morning worship, 25 Sunday evening, 22 for the mid-week service and $76 contribution. This is an increase over the previous year. Eight were baptized and there was one withdrawal. Three gospel meetings were held and the church entered into its new meeting house last March.

Growth for 1960 should exceed that of 1959. January interest is the best we have had in the history of the congregation. Several private studies are being conducted each week, which we believe will result in baptisms within a few weeks. Continued good wishes to the messenger.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warner's Chapel
Darrell E. Beard, Evangelist

The work continues to be very enjoyable and satisfactory at Warner's Chapel. On December 27 the last of teen-age classes ended with good results. We hope to have one of these classes each year. The teachers of this congregation met for the first time January 2nd. They plan to meet each month to study together and discuss how to better teach the word of God. Beginning in February, two new classes will begin meeting, viz. A men's training class and a Ladies' Bible Class. Many of our members read and enjoy the MESSENGER OF TRUTH.

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FRONT COVER - Mount Rushmore, South Dakota. Courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce, Greenville, South Carolina.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
433 E. Broad Street
Harold Scott, Evangelist

Beginning this month the congregation here will begin sending $25 per month to support Brother J. O. Walters in New Bern, N. C. and $50 is being sent to Hal Frazier in France. The new budget of $200 per week has been met thus far this year. One man was baptized Sunday evening, uniting a family in Christ. Our Sunday evening services have been changed to 7 p. m. during the winter months. Each family in the congregation is to begin using the Miler film stripes with the sound tape-recorder as an aid to study in their own homes with their friends.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

This new congregation has enjoyed a good start. Forty-four people were present for the first service Jan. 3 and at the singing Sunday afternoon Jan 10, there were approximately 215 present. Our highest collection so far has been $60. Highest attendance was Jan. 17 with Bible study - 43; 11 o'clock - 51.

MOORE, S. C.
Highway 290 - Box 53
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

The church here is working together in harmony and love. Six were restored since last report. We are planning an addition to our building in the near future. Brother Thomas Burton will be here in April, if the Lord is willing, in our Spring meeting. Pray for us.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C.
124 Queens Road
James L. Frazier, Evangelist

On Sunday August 16, 1959, I began working with the church here. Since that time I have had the privilege of baptizing seven, have seen four restored and forty-two have placed membership here. Our attendance has dropped some during the holiday season, but the average is fair, due to the fact that this is a military area and much of the membership consist of Marine and Navy personel who are continually coming in and goint out. Our highest attendance so far recently is 154. We have 137 members at the present. Highest contribution lately is $172.00. I could conduct at least one or two meetings in 1960. If you would like to have me for a meeting sometime during the year please let me hear from you.

NEW ELLENTON, S. C.
Jimmy Doris, Reporting

The church of our Lord was begun in New Ellenton, South Carolina in the Autumn of 1952. Brother Johnny C. Sewell, and Brother Carl Shetter, two students from David Libscomb College, worked together in a two weeks meeting during August and September, which resulted in three baptisms and one restoration. At the close of the meeting, property was acquired for a building site, and about 10 months later, the church met for the first time in their new building, and was then only partially completed. The auditorium seats approximately 200, and five classrooms are available for Bible study. In 1954 because of work shortage in this area, many of the members moved away. At the present time, there are only four families

(Continued)

remaining that were here when the congregation started. During the history of the church there have been a total of 74 baptisms, with many being restored to their first love. Brother P. L. Manning was with us in a series of gospel meetings from April 20 - 27, 1959, in which one was baptized. We invite any who may come our way to stop and worship with us.

VALDESE, N. C.
P. O. Box 72
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

The church in Valdese has subscribed to the Carolina Messenger of Truth for each family in the congregation, and would recommend that other churches do the same. It is the kind of publication we read and enjoy and can give to outsiders for edification. Thanks for a perodical so uplifting and minus all controversial issues before the church today. We have long needed a magazine that would create a good impression on our friends in the denominational world.

On December 27th, January 3rd and January 10th, the church here was without a regular preacher. Brother M. E. Burns, one of our own members, preached on these dates, both morning and evening services.

In the absence of a regular preacher, Brother Worth Burns recorded the DIAL-A-DEVOTION program for the telephone service. Brother James A. Davis started this program here and it has made many friends and created much good will for the church.

A short devotional program is held at the Oak Lawn Rest Home in Valdese every Sunday afternoon. Brother Worth Burns has been conducting this service in the absence of a regular preacher for the church here. This service is attended by several members of the church here. The Lord's Supper is served to Sister Williams of Marion, N. C. who is a patient at the home.

The church in Lenior, N. C. is still in need of a preacher, and anyone desiring this work please contact the church in that town. For the past year, the church in Valdese has been furnishing a preacher for them on Sundays, both for Bible study and worship service, and Thursday nights for Bible study. On Dec. 27th the preacher of the Franklin Road church in Nashville, Tenn. preached for them. Brother M. E. Burns of Valdese conducted services for them on Jan. 3rd, this year. Brother James Castlebury from Mississippi preached trial sermons on Jan. 11th and 12th.



The snapshot is a picture of one of the Sunday morning Bible classes in the Valdese church.

The teacher of this class is Miss Rachel Burns. The junior girls are: left to right, Elaine Feimster, Diane Davis, Joan Yancey, and Rita Burns.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C.
54 Vance Street
Wayman Love, Evangelist

On January 12th I baptized a lady who had been a baptist the most of her 66 years. She was brought to the church building and returned home by ambulance. Vance Street is planning two gospel meetings this year. Our attendance last Lord's day was 94 with a contribution of $162.91.

GEORGETOWN, S. C.
Highway 701
Johnny C. Sewell, Evangelist

During 1959 seventeen were baptized and two restored in Georgetown. Two others, Christians from Savannah, moved into town to worship with us. This brought the membership, as of the last of '59, to fifty-one.

The contribution averaged in 1957 $36 per Sunday, in '58 it rose to $47 per week and in '59 it neared $70 per Lord's day. In 1957 an average of 36 different people attended Sunday services, in '58 the average increased to 44 and in '59 to 65 per week. All previous attendance records were broken with 176 present for the last day of summer Vacation Bible School and 119 in Sunday morning Bible classes on the peak days.

Brother Glenn Killom, now of Cookeville, Tennessee, preached in the summer meeting and plans to return for another meeting this coming summer. Brother Rawden Bullard, of Charleston, taught a fine singing school in the fall. Brother Bob Plunkett of Spartanburg plans to be with us in a Spring meeting.

1960 has begun well and we have bright hopes for a good year that will see old records broken.

The five classroom added and the old building remodeled have been of real value in developing the Bible class attendance.

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C.
1201 Oakland Street
James A. Davis

On January 1st we renewed our work with the church here. In many respects this was like 'coming home' since we were located here for 3½ years before. We leave our sincere good wishes with the faithful brethren in Valdese, and feel that the work will prosper from Brother G. F. Raines' preaching.

The church in Hendersonville took a step forward recently in the purchase of a three bed room brick vaneer residence for the preacher. It is a very nice home in a good location at 630 Hebron Street.

We have had one response to the invitation thus far, a confession of wrongs. The courage shown in such a step is not only commendable but is an example of the kind of heart pleasing to God.

CAROLINA LECTURES

The annual Carolina Lectureship for 1960 will be held at the South Main congregation in Winston-Salem, North Carolina May 2-6

Further announcement and more complete details will appear in a future issue of the MESSENGER.

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RADIO AND TELEVISION GUIDE

"SUNDAY"

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia	7:30 p. m.
WHAN, Charleston	2:30 p. m.
WBTW, Channel 8, Florence	11:30 p. m.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 p. m.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia	2:30 p. m.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington	Noon
WJMX,	2:30 p. m.
WKIX,	5:30 p. m.
WKIT, Durham	5:30 p. m.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 p. m.
WSAT, Salisbury	2:30 p. m.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill	6:35 p. m.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter	5:35 p. m.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill	5:35 p. m.
WJRI, Lenoir	5:35 p. m.
WGNT, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 p. m.
WHSC, 1450, Hartsville	5:35 p. m.
WRRZ, Clinton	2:30 p. m.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham	9:15 a. m.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 a. m.
WTOB, 1380, Winston-Salem	9:15 a. m.
WHIP, Mooresville	4:30 p m.
WACA, 1590	8:40 a. m.
WABZ, Albemarle	8:45 a. m.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 a. m.
WEGO, 1410, Concord	8:45 a. m.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca	9:30 a. m.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell	10:00 a. m.
WGBR, Goldsboro	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville	8:30 a. m.
WISC, Statesville	8:45 a. m.
WENC, 1240, Whiteville	1:45 p. m.
WSHE, 570, Raleigh	9:00 a. m.
WSHE, 570, Raleigh	11:00 a. m.
WFNC, 1440, Fayetteville	9:30 a. m.

"TUESDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 a. m.

"THURSDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 a. m.
WWRD, Bamberg	11:45 a. m.

"SATURDAY"

WACA, 1590	5:00 p. m.
WMNC,	9:30 a. m.
WBCU,	8:45 p. m.

"MONDAY - FRIDAY"

WCGD, Chester	11:45 a. m.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell	11:00 a. m.

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We have no way of knowing if the radio & television listings herein are correct or if they are complete unless we hear from you.

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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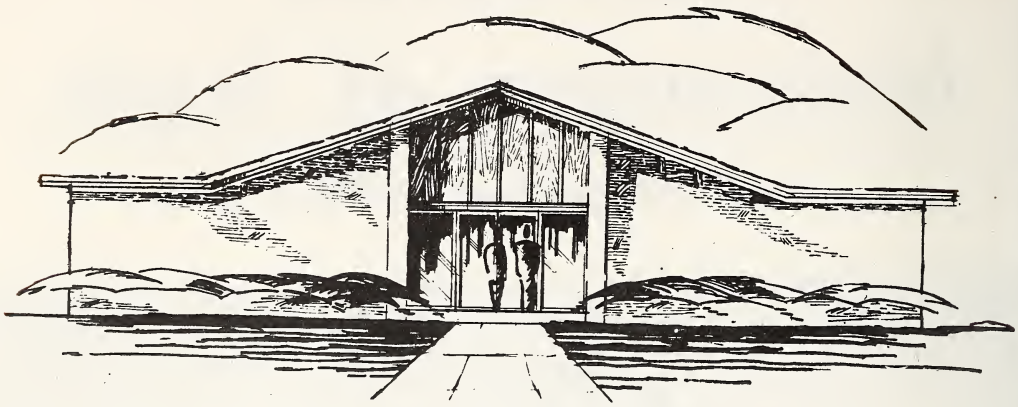
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Messenger of Truth

March 1960





BUILDING PLANNED AT UNION, S. C.

The oldest congregation of faithful brethren in S. C. have contracted with the Paden Construction Company, Cleburne, Texas, to begin construction soon on its new building as seen in the accompanying sketch.

The church meeting in Union, S. C. was started in the year 1918. Although earlier efforts to plant the New Testament church in South Carolina had been made, these efforts to plant the cause were wiped out in the digressive movement. In 1918, Thomas Burton moved to Union from Tennessee to begin house to house meetings with a view to planting New Testament Christianity once again in S. C. He was supported by brother A. M. Burton of Nashville.

From this effort the congregation in Union was established. The first convert was brother George Henderson, who was active in the church until his death in 1958. The second was brother Billy Davis, who is still active in the Union church. James A. Davis, preaching in Hendersonville, N. C., is brother Davis' son.

From the very beginning, the church in Union has been mission-minded, having been directly or indirectly responsible for the establishment of several other congregations in the Piedmont Carolinas. The Union church has happily been free from hobbyism through the years.

The present meeting house was built in 1919. Though it has been adequate thru the years, it is now unsuitable to offer proper facilities for the future growth of the congregation. The church in Union is not now, nor does it plan to ask for financial gifts from others in this building program!

In order to finance a portion of its building program, the church is issuing $35,000.00 in Providence Church Building Bonds paying 5% interest per year, payable semi-annually. Over half of the issue has been placed with the local membership. A total of $22,300.00 had been placed thru mid February. Maturity dates on the bonds now available range from 8 and 1/2 to 13 and 1/2 years. Christians interested in investing in the building program of the Union church should address all correspondence to Church of Christ, P. O. Box 64, Union, S. C. Checks should be payable to "Church of Christ Bldg. Fund". Your investment will be greatly appreciated.

by James S. McDonald, Jr.

NOTICE!!

Be sure to notify us when you are moving. If you know of anyone who is not receiving his paper, please let us know.

Parable of the Mustard Seed

James A. Davis
Hendersonville, N. C.

Think of the tiniest garden seed with which you are familiar and then think of the same seed as being even smaller, and you will have some idea of the size of the grain of mustard seed. Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which said He, "...is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof." Matt. 13: 32.

According to Peloubet's Bible Dictionary the mustard plant referred to by the Lord is common in Palestine, and often reaches a height as tall as a horse and its rider. The language of the parable is figurative, Oriental, and proverbial. The mustard seed is minute in size, but in the soil it grows to such proportions that it can support the weight of birds as they alight upon its branches to eat the seeds it produces.

The meaning of the parable is simple, clear, and prophetic. From what appears as a small and humble beginning the kingdom grew to worldwide significance. Christ began his work in the world with 12 men. We learn from I Corinthians 15:6 that there were at least 500 disciples after His resurrection. Then on the day of Pentecost there were 3,000 that obeyed Peter's commands and so the church was born, and on the march. From Jerusalem it spread daily through Judea, into Samaria, and on to the uttermost part of the earth as Jesus had predicted in Acts 1:8, so that in one generation it reached out to all the world. The kingdom came with power, but not with the sensational fanfare which is characteristic of the institutions of men. The church began in a small way but it was not to remain small for its growth in the first century was phenominal. We can see the great power of God moving in the lives of the early Christians to bring about this growth. Through the teaching and preaching of the word of God the church rolled forward in its mission.

In I Cor. chapter one the Bible suggests for us that God's power is often demonstrated in those things which appear to be little and despised in the sight of men. The principles of obedience to the Gospel and the precepts of the Christian life are regarded by many as being small and of no consequence, and even some go so far as to despise them. Yet in the basic principles of the turth is couched the great power of God for converting the soul.

In Matt. 17:20 Jesus again mentions the mustard seed in respect to faith, and said, "...if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." Faith begins in a small way in the heart but if it is given a chance it will grow and increase and accomplish wonderful things. Too few are willing to give their faith the freedom it needs to expand and grow. There is great power in the word of God, and in the faith which it brings into the heart.

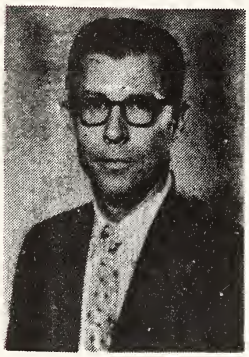
The pattern of a small beginning but growth to prominence has been repeated in the history of most local congregations of the church. In the past two issues of the Carolina Messenger we have read thrilling accounts of the progress of the church in the two Carolinas over the past few years. From a beginning with two or three Christians or in some cases a dozen or more, faithfully meeting in a rented room or store building strong congregations have been and are being built up. In the Carolinas most of the churches started in this humble way. But we can always be thankful that if it is the Lord's Church engaged in His work it is bound to prosper.

May we all remember that there is great power in what often appears to be a small beginning. Small opportunities when seized and worked out often pay large dividends. The work of saving souls is the greatest of all work, and there is only one

see page 7

I AM A . . . HOLINESS, CATHOLIC, BAPTIST - PART II

Noyles E. Sewell
Wilmington, N. C.



I sincerely believe in the truth that is implied by each of the terms methodist, presbyterian, adventist, holiness, catholic and baptist, and yet I am a member of none of the religious groups designated by these terms. I believe that I can hold any truth that is to be found in any denomination and still be just an undenominational Christian. In my preceeding article I explained that I am a methodist because I am an observer of method and order; I am a presbyterian because I believe in the government of the local church by presbyters (elders); and that I am an adventist because I lay special stress on the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. I am also a believer in holiness. Holiness is the state of being sanctified or set apart to the service of God. A person or thing that is devoted to the service of God is sanctified and holy. The firstborn of the flock was sanctified (Exodus 13:2). So was the tabernacle (Ex. 29:44), the alter (Ex. 40:10), and the priests (Ex. 40:13). In like maner, when a person becomes a Christian he is set apart for the service of God. He is called out of the world by the gospel and sanctified unto the Lord. (II Thess. 2:13-14) The obedient believer becomes a part of God's holy nation, having been called out of darkness into his marvellous light. (I Pet. 2:7-9) Having thus been made holy and sanctified by the blood of Christ (Heb. 10: 29) in becoming a Christian, he should strive to devote himself more and more to the service of God, thus "perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord." (II Cor. 7:1) A Christian should be a "living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God..." (Rom. 12:1) He is to "follow after peace with all men and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14) His growth in holiness will be marked by the addition to his faith of virture, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and love. (II Pet. 1: 5-7) In his life can be seen, more and more clearly, the fruit of the spirit, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness , goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. (Gal. 5:22-23) And he will be more able to "keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1:27) I firmly believe that one of the greatest needs of the true Israel of God today is more holiness. I believe all the Bible says about holiness and sanctification, but let me say kindly that I believe none of the peculiar doctrines of the so-called "Holiness" denominations. The idea that holiness or sanctification is a second work of grace accompanied by a baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire is wholly without scriptual authority, and the teaching that one who is sanctified does not commit any sin is in plain contradiction of the scriptures. The church at Corinth was sanctified (as all Christians are) yet we find that they were guilty of envy, strife and divisions (I Cor. 3:3), condoning fornication (I Cor. 5:1), going to law against one another (I Cor. 6:7), and corrupting the Lord's Supper (I Cor. 11:20-22). Truly, those of "Holiness" denominations are more sanctimonious than sanctified and by claiming to have no sin they deceive themselves and the truth is not in them. (I John 1:8-2:1).

5. I am a catholic. The original sense of the word means "pertaining to the universal faith, comprehending all true believers." I believe that the gospel is universal because Jesus instructed his apostles to "preach the gospel to every creature." I further believe that all who obey the gospel are added to the universal church by the Lord, (Acts 2:47). The church was purchased by the blood of

(Cont'd on next page)

I am . . . (Cont'd from preceding page)

Christ (Acts 20:28). Since this is true, I know that all saved are in the church because none can be saved without the blood of Christ (I Peter 1:18-19). Therefore, the church that belongs to Christ is the universal church and comprehends all true believers. I belong to the universal, catholic,church of Christ, because I have obeyed the gospel of Christ just as did those on the day of Pentecost, as we read in Acts, chapter 2. The Roman Catholic church is not the universal church of Christ. That which is "Roman" cannot possible be universal, and that church which looks to the pope as it's head cannot have Christ as it's head. The Roman church is the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth described in Revelation 17. Time would fail me to point out all her false doctrines (Matt. 15:9, Matt. 23:9, I Tim. 2:5, I Tim. 4:1-4). Suffice it to say that they who would be truly catholic must utterly reject the Roman church.

6. Finally, I am a baptist. The primary meaning of the word baptist is - one who baptizes. In the Bible John is called "The Baptist", not because he was the only one who baptized, but because he was the first to whom God gave the command to baptize. All others who baptized were also baptists in this sense. As a minister of the gospel I have baptized many people, therefore, I am a baptist.

Another meaning of the word baptist, according to my dictionary, is one who holds that the only valid baptism is immersion. I am a baptist in this sense also. The meaning of the Greek word for baptism is - dip, submerge or immerse. It cannot mean anything else. The scriptures speak of baptism as a burial (Rom. 6:3-4, Col. 2:12) and give us a clear-cut example of immersion (Acts 8:38). The substitution of sprinkling and pouring for immersion originated with the Roman Catholic Church and was first authorized for general practice at the council of Ravenna in 1311 A. D.

Yes, I am a baptist, because I immerse others in water, and because I believe that no other action can be substituted for and be acceptable to God, But let me hasten to say that I am not a member of the large religious denomination which is designated as "The Baptist Church". After 14 years of membership I left "The Baptist Church" but I am still a baptist and believe all that the Bible says regarding baptism. Strange to say, the baptist denomination does not really believe in baptism! They regard it as an initiatory rite into their churches but not as essential to salvation. They teach that one is saved without baptism but cannot be a member of the Baptist church without it, thus they make it harder to get into a Baptist church than it is to get to heaven! Jesus said, "except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." (John 3:5) In giving the great commission, Jesus said, "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16:16) On Pentecost, Peter's answer to the question, "what must we do?" was, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." (Acts 2:38) Saul of Tarsus was told by the messenger of Christ to "arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16) As if to make it possible to deny the necessity of baptism, we have the plain statement of the apostle Peter that "the like figure, whereunto even baptism, doth also now save us. From the scriptures which we have noted it should be evident that salvation is conditioned on faith, repentance and baptism, in that order. When the truth of these scriptures illuminated my understanding several years ago, I realized that the baptism I had received on entering "The Baptist Church" was not scriptual baptism. The action was right (immersion) but the purpose was wrong. I was baptized into "The Baptist Church" with the understanding that I had already been saved and forgiven of my sins, but

(Cont'd on next page)

I am . . . (Cont'd from preceding page)

the scriptures teach that sins are forgiven when a penitent believer is baptized, and not before. I did the only thing for one in my condition to do - I was immersed again, and this time for the right purpose. Only then could I know that I was a Christian having obeyed God's plan of salvation exactly as revealed in his word. Your soul is your most valuable possession, take no chances with it. Study the book of Acts of Apostles for the answer to the question, "what must I do to be saved?", obey the commands of God and rest assured of his blessing. In believing and obeying the gospel of Christ you will become a simple Christian, nothing more and nothing less. You can believe every truth revealed in the Bible and obey every command of God that is applicable to this dispensation. This being true, it is obvious that in order to become a member of some denomination one must believe something and obey something other than Bible truth. It is dangerous to believe and obey the doctrines and commandments of men. (Matt. 15:9) We plead with you to become a simple undenominational Christian. Break all ties with denominational groups and take your stand on the word of God alone. Assemble on the Lord's day with others who belong to no denomination and worship God in Spirit and in Truth.

You too can be a methodist, presbyterian, adventist, holiness, catholic, baptist and still be just a Christian, nothing more and nothing less.

PROTESTANTS FAIL IN SPAIN

American and British efforts to obtain greater freedom for Protestants in Spain have failed.

Roman Catholicism is the religion of the state, and repeated representations and suggestions over the past 10 years by Protestants have brought little improvement, Protestant representatives say.

Spain's 30,000 Protestants continue to hope, however, for implementation of an ignored sentence of Article VI of the Spanish Bill of Rights which says: "Nobody shall be molested because of his religious beliefs or the private practice of his cult."

In fact, Protestants are molested because of their beliefs and hindered in the private practice of their religion. They may not:

1. Be elected to any public office, national, provincial, or municipal.
2. Reach the rank of officer in the Spanish armed forces.
3. Obtain employment in the nursing profession.
4. Go to Protestant schools, which are forbidden.
5. Be married in a Protestant church. Protestant marriages are not recognized by law.

Article III of the Bill of Rights says, "All Spaniards shall be equal brfore the law!"

But Protestant appeals for equality before the law are rejected or ignored. Four times since the end of the Spanish Civil War in 1939 Protestants have asked Generalissimo Francisco Franco for "fair treatment". The last was June 8, 1956. They have received no reply at all.

The Protestant Union Theological Seminary, the only Protestant seminary in Spain, was closed without an announced reason Jan. 23, 1956. Three months later more than 35,000 volumes of Protestant religious literature were seized in a raid on the British and Foreign Bible Society. The British government protested without avail."

(Reported to be from AP, Jan. 26, 1960, Madrid, Spain. Would not the same thing happen in any country where the Catholics gain enough power? - Editor.)

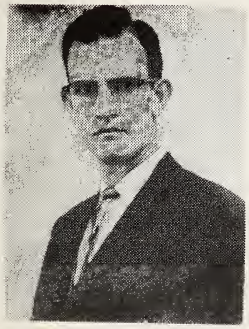
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SORRY WE'RE LATE

Due to so much sickness the paper is a little late this month. We'll try to be on time next month.

Let the Bible Be Your Guide

Johnny C. Sewell
Georgetown, S. C.



A common expression has it, "Let your conscience be your guide." This is not always sound advice, as we shall see. A far better suggestion would be, "Let the Bible be your guide." Our conscience can lead us astray; the Bible will lead us only aright. We have God's law (Rom. 2:14) and by it we must live.

Conscience is that moral sense within us which tells us whether or not we are doing that which we think is right. Conscience involves a double knowledge: (1) knowledge of what we have done or plan to do and (2) knowledge of what we have been taught or think is right. When there is conflict between these two, our consciences ordinarily "hurt" us. When these two agree, our consciences approve our deeds.

Think of the heathen woman who has been taught and who believes that she should throw her firstborn child into the river to appease the gods. She kills her child in this manner and has a completely clear conscience in the matter for she believes this is what should be done. Though she sinfully killed her child, her conscience did not react against the deed. Her conscience led her astray. Who will say her conscience should have been her guide?

Then there was Paul, the apostle, who had a clear conscience even while persecuting Christians. Acts 26:10,11 says he imprisoned the disciples and gave his voice against them when they were put to death. Later Paul came to realize he was a chief sinner in persecuting Christians and that while he was engaged in those terrible acts, he was actually persecuting Christ. Acts 9:4. Paul's conscience had been perfectly clear, however, in all these affairs. He said, Acts 23:1, "I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." He thought he should persecute Christians; that's what he had been taught. He had an approving conscience because he was doing what he thought was right, although the acts were in reality terribly sinful. His conscience led him astray and was a very poor guide. Who will say Paul did right in letting conscience lead him to kill Christians? Will you?

Many are the people who think they are doing right and are saved, who are not--because they fail to know the true teachings of God. Their consciences are leading them astray.

Then, a person can know the truth and still be following an erring conscience. Many have violated their conscience so often that it has become dulled and seared as with a hot iron. I Tim. 4:1. Some have consciences that are dull, defiled, seared, insensitive and guilty. Titus 1:15. Surely, none will say a seared and defiled conscience should be followed.

We advise, therefore, that you study carefully the Bible. Learn what it says. Live in complete harmony with it and you will be on a course both sure and stedfast, both good and safe. Let the Bible be your guide in all that you do!

PARABLE (cont'd from page 3)

way to do it - by preaching, teaching, and living the truth. But in taking care of the small details we accomplish the greater tasks. Do not despise the little jobs or the meager opportunities. Many preachers have had the privilege of baptizing someone who first learned the truth months, even years before from the lips of a faithful Christian in what might appear a "chance" conversation.

Don't Lose Sight of Our Purpose

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.



"A new congregation has been established in.." We have heard or read this statement many times within the last few years with reference to the church in the Carolinas. Indeed, we have experienced a remarkable growth in these two states. Let us offer up to God our heartfelt thanks for what has been accomplished and petition him for wisdom and courage as we press onward.

As we rejoice in our progress it is wise for us to reconsider our purpose. We do not propose to be simply another church among the many. It is not our desire to convert people from one denominational group to another one. We are not trying to win people to "our sect". It is our purpose to teach God's word and to persuade the lost to turn to Jesus Christ, "the way, the truth, and the life". We wish to encourage people to come into the church of the New Testament, to be Christians and Christians only.

The Bible gives no authority for the present religious confusion. Jesus built one church and pleaded that all who would believe in him would be one. (Matt. 16:18; John 17:20). In the first century all who turned to Christ for salvation were united in the one body. "There is one body..." (Eph. 4:4). It is possible for one to be in this same body today. We have the same God, the same Lord, the same Spirit, the same message of salvation, and we can be members of the same undenominational church. We can be members of the Lord's church without being affiliated with any denomination on earth. We can and we should. Therein is salvation. Jesus is the Saviour of the body. (Eph. 5:23).

Before we can be members of the Lord's church, we must be forgiven of sins first. To be forgiven of sins, we must acknowledge Christ as the Son of God, repent of sins, and be baptized for the remission of our sins. (John 8:24; Acts 2:38). If we do this from a sincere heart, then we come into Christ. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Gal. 3:27). To be in Christ is to be in his church, for the church is his body. "He is the head of the body, the church." (Col. 1:18). Every saved person is a member of the Lord's church because the Lord adds to the church those who are saved. (Acts 2:47).

As members of the body or church of Christ, we should be content to be designated simply as Christians or Children of God. We have believed in Christ; we have surrendered to Christ; we now desire to follow Christ. How appropriate is the name Christian! It is most unbecoming for those who desire to follow Christ to wear human names.

Yes, it is possible to be just a Christian, and that's exactly what we strive to be. Many are discouraged and disgusted with denominationalism and are searching for something that will give more satisfaction. New Testament Christianity is the answer. It is our privilege and our obligation to make known these precious truths. If we should ever lose sight of this purpose, then there will be no real reason for our existence.

NEEDED - NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS

Remember, we are in need of 1,000 new subscriptions in order for the paper to pay its own way. Won't you help us. You will enjoy getting the Messenger.

Watch the numbers after your name on the label. They tell you when it is time to renew your subscription.

NEWS

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray D. Fullerton, Evangelist

On February 7th, 1960 the church in Goldsboro formally opened its new building with a brief dedication service, an open house, and a gospel singing. More than 175 persons attended. Christians from Raleigh, Wilson, Wilmington, Rocky Mount, Jacksonville, and Kinston were present, as were a number of non-members from Goldsboro. The College congregation in Abilene, Texas, which established the church in Goldsboro on August 11, 1957 sent one of its elders, Walter H. Adams, also Dean of Abilene Christian College, to attend the occasion. Also appearing briefly was Geo. W. Bailey, preacher for the College Church, who began a six-day meeting February 7t

The meeting resulted in one restoration and two baptisms. Bro. Bailey spoke on a 30 minute radio broadcast for five mornings, and also appeared as guest speaker at the Goldsboro Rotary Club. Night attendance averaged 89 well above previous records set by the church, and the high mark in the meeting was 128 on Thursday night. A new

Goldsboro continued:

Bible School attendance record of 115 was set on Sunday morning.

On Monday, February 8, twenty-five gospel preachers and men (some with wives), came to enjoy a day in fellowship and worship. They had the noon meal together, ate the evening meal at the Fullerton home, and worshiped together at the evening service, in which eight of the visitors participated. These brethren drove from as far away as 340 miles and came from both Carolinas. The inspiration of this fellowship was one of the high-points of the week for those who were present.

On Saturday, February 6, the church here began a second fifteen-minute radio program, and on Sunday, February 7, the Herald of Truth began broadcast over a local radio station. We now number about 59 members.

Ray Fullerton will teach a class on "Establishing Mission Congregations" at the ACC Lectures Feb. 21-25.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
10 Hill Street
William Wilder, Evangelist

On December 13th of last year, the church in Rocky Mount entered its new building. It is wonderful to be-

Rocky Mount continued:

gin this year with a nice, adequate plant.

This building consists of eight classrooms, a nursery, four restrooms, preacher's study, and an auditorium estimated to seat 210. The attendance has already increased some, and we feel reasonably sure it will continue to do so. An opening day service and gospel meeting is scheduled for March 20-25. Bro. Garland Elkins from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, will be the speaker. On the 21st of March, a luncheon will be served; every gospel preacher is urged to come.

The following are reports on the designated congregations, based on material reported by Bro. Wilder:

PIKE ROAD: A congregation of about 110. Brother Kidwell is the preacher, but is planning to leave soon.
JAMESVILLE: A very small group meeting on Sunday afternoons. The Pike Road con gregation is supplying the speakers.
ROANOKE RAPIDS: A small congregation still meeting, but have no preacher at present.
COLUMBIA: No church; only one family who are members of the church, and they attend Pike Road.

TRYON, N. C.
Mrs. E. H. Haynes, Reporting

As yet, the church in Try on has not secured a preacher, but Bro. A. S. Chambers is working with the congregation until a permanent man can be found. We would like to hear from anyone who is interested in working with the Tryon church, or from anyone who may know of someone who might like to work with us. During the past weeks, we have enjoyed fine lessons from: Stanley Cruz, of Florida; Carl Wilmoth of Tennessee; and Chester Womack of Spindale, N. C.

We enjoy the Carolina Messenger of Truth, and look forward to receiving it each month. It is most uplifting and seems to bring us close to those we love so dearly. We pray for the success of the many workers who labor untiringly for the good of Christ and His Church.

WILLISTON, S. C.
Paul Wilkins, Evangelist
P. O. Box 255

Bro. and Sis. Wilkinson moved here from Ames, Oklahoma, in time for their 3 children (two boys and one girl, ages 14,11, 9) to begin school the first of September. We have been enjoying a good work. Since Sep-

Williston continued:

tember '59, one family has moved away, two families have gone back into the world, two families have moved here, adding 5 members, two members confessed unfaithfulness, three have been baptized.

We have 49 members in attendance, representing 22 families 14 of which are united. Thus far in 1960 the contributions have averaged $113.70 per week; Sunday morning Bible classes - 56.5; morning worship, 64; evening worship, 46; mid-week, 51, Ladies' Bible class, 8. We are working on a program which we hope will reactivate each member.

The radio program we formerly helped to support in Bamberg was dropped last year, due to lack of funds.

Brother Noyles E. Sewell is to be the speaker in our spring meeting, May 9 through 15.

The church of Christ in Williston salutes you!

NEWPORT, N. C.
Tom M. Roberts, Evangelist

Another decade has passed with the church in Newport, and it has without doubt been the most decisive one since this church started in 1920.

The last Sunday in December, 1959 brought us a new record in attendance at the regular Sunday morning worship service -- 206. We had previously come close to breaking the "200" mark but had not done so until then.

Newport continued:

Perhaps the most thrilling news is the fact that the entire debt load was removed in January 1960. The final payment was made on the church building and the preacher's home. The elders here are awake to the needs of the Carolinas, as seen by the fact that they undertook partial support of the minister in New Bern, N. C. The preacher there is Bro. J. O. Walters, previously of Concord, N. C. He is an able and faithful preacher, and the church will undoubtedly prosper through his work.

We face good prospects in Newport, as we face the next decade, but realize our responsibilities, as we have been richly blessed. Two meetings are planned for the coming year, a VBS in the summer, a religious survey in the next few weeks, and a work program based on these results. As you all remain faithful to the Lord, may he richly bless you, and give you much work to do. In this way, we can truly have a Restoration in the Carolinas.

BE SURE to send in your reports by the 20th of every month.

-- News Editor

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Albert Harvey, Reporting

Our 1959 attendance showed a marked increase over previous years. The average increase for the year was 15 per cent. However, the biggest increase is for the last four months of the year. The highest attendance for the morning worship was 214. The largest Bible study attendance on record is 196. The most encouraging statisitc seen during the year was an increase in Bible study attendance of 25 per cent. Additions, including baptisms, restorations, and identifications numbered 24. The teen-agers of the congregation did an excellent work in preparing toys and clothing for some of the less fortunate of our community. 28 children were cared for through their zealous efforts. They were led in this project by one of the elders and his wife.

To reach our attendance goal this year, we must begin to consider holding two worship services on Sunday morning, or begin another congregation in the city of Charlotte. A number of additional congregations would mean much in this area. The elders of this congregation recognize this need and have asked the men working on mission programs to begin looking for a suitable lot. The church is setting aside over $ 4,000 for mission work this year.

Charlotte Continued:

As we look back over the year and examine what has been done, we realize that what has been accomplished during 1959 cannot now be changed. However, we look forward with eagerness to a great year for the Lord in 1960. We ask the Lord's blessings upon us, and all members of His body.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evang.

Though crippled by the flu in January, we averaged 87 in Bible study, 113 at 11 a. m. and 59 at 7 p. m., and 39 on Wednesday. Our average contribution was $ 235.80 per Sunday. Our first baptism of the year was on February 14.

WINSTON-SALEM
South Fork Congregation
C. W. Bradley, Evangelist

In March of this year the South Fork congregation will be three years old. For almost two years the group met in a school gymnasium. During November of 1958 our new building was completed. It is a very attractive building with plenty of room available for the future progress of the church. The auditorium has a seating

Winston-Salem Continued:

capacity of 340. Our present membership is 85.

Our present attendance on Sunday mornings is around 120. In 1958 the contributions averaged $ 240 per Sunday. Last year we have an average of $340 For 1960 our budget is set at $ 375 per week. We are sending $ 40 per month to Lexington N. C., $ 25 per month to the Herald of Truth Radio program, and $ 50 per month to Hal Frazier in France.

We have meetings scheduled for the next four years. Neil Lightfoot will be with us June 5-12, and Burrel Prince will be here this fall.

FLORENCE, S. C.
618 Gregg Avenue
William N. Jackson, Evangelist

Increases were shown in all areas during 1959. Our a.m. worship averaged 66, and our contribution averaged $ 102 per Lord's day. As of January 1st, the congregation here assumes partial support of the preacher. Our membership now stands at 47.

CHESTER, S. C.
135 Saluda Street
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

Two ladies were immersed at Chester during January. Attendance records were established in three departments. We averaged 37 for classes, 41 for morning worship, and 30 for mid-week service. Our five day per week radio program, "The Bible Hour," continues to be well received.

Chester Continued:

HIGH POINT, N. C.
Olan Hicks, Evangelist

The work at High Point is still advancing steadily. We have been selfsupporting for several years now, and the Lord has blessed us richly in many ways. In the first month of this year our Sunday morning attendance has just about doubled.

Because of an undesirable change in the policy of the broadcasting station we have discontinued our radio program for the time being, and turned our efforts to a concentrated personal work program. It is bearing fruit. Recently, four former members of the Baptist church laid aside all denominationalism to embrace the pure New Testament faith. We are very hopeful that others will soon follow their good example. It seems that "the people have a mind to work." I believe we are about ready to take this city for Christ. Pray for us always.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW!

WILSON, N. C.
511 W. Nash Street
J. R. Melton, Virgil L. Hale
Evangelists

On January 8th, Bro. Virgil Hale, his mother, along with myself and family, left Nashville, Tennessee enroute to Wilson, N. C. We arrived here at 4:15 p. m., January 9th. We are making our home at 511 Nash Street, in a rather large house, which we feel will be adequate for holding services at the present. As far as we know, there are no members of the church in this county, other than ourselves.

On January 19th we worshiped with the church at Rocky Mount, where brother James Ogburn presented two fine lessons, in the absence of Bro. William Wilder. Bro. Hale and I received a cordial welcome from the brethren, and were given an opportunity to assist in the teaching program. On January 17th, I was given an invitation to speak for the church in Raleigh. We hope to have our first service on January 24. We will also be broadcasting the gospel over station WGTM from 6:35 until 7:00 p. m. each Sunday. In connection with this program we will offer tracts and a free correspondence course to the listening audience.

Wilson Continued:

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

During January our attendance was below the previous average due to much sickness. We had one baptism.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

Carlis Scroggins of Jacksonville will preach every other Sunday in Whiteville, beginning in February. Negotiations are under way to buy a desirable corner lot as a building site.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

We witnessed a reasonable amount of progress in 1959. Twelve were baptized and 24 acknowledged negligence toward the Lord. Bible study attendance averaged 120 per Sunday, and the worship service averaged 136. Contribution in '59 averaged $ 175.97 weekly. So far this year we have had two baptisms, and two confessions of wrong. We covet the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ, and shall be remembering them in ours.

GENERAL MEETING IN ASHEVILLE

The editorial and publication staffs of the Carolina Messenger of Truth extend to all our friends a cordial invitation to attend a meeting in the city of Asheville North Carolina, on Friday, March 18th. A report on the progress, purposes, and future plans of our publication will be given, with the hope that the members of the church in the areas represented will come to a fuller and more perfect understanding of the ideals and goals, of our journal. You will be given the opportunity to offer any suggestions that you think would be helpful in an attempt to improve the general effectiveness of our efforts. Questions will be most cordially received. At present, our plans call for us to meet at 12 noon at the Bailey's Cafeteria, in the Westgate Shopping Center, in Asheville. We will have our noon meal together, and the discussion of the "business" matters will follow. Come, and bring your friends with you. We especially urge all preachers, church officers and other interested individuals to be present. We are sure you will enjoy the fellowship, and also learn more about the efforts we are expending through our journal.

YOUR COOPERATION IS NEEDED!!

One of the new features that we plan to incorporate into the "Messenger" in the near future is a section devoted to news regarding recent arrivals, churches that are looking for preachers, and preachers who desire to move into this area to work. It had been hoped that this feature could be included in this issue, but we feel that a more recent compilation is needed. Please send us the names of new preachers who have moved in, congregations that need preachers, and the names of preachers who wish to locate in the Carolinas. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

-News Editor-

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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GOSPEL MEETING
At
CHURCH OF CHRIST
135 SALUDA STREET
CHESTER S. C.

March 20 - 25

SERVICE
7:45 P. M. EACH WEEK DAY
11:00 A. M. AND 8:00 P. M. SUNDAY

NEWTON GRIBBLE
SELMA, ALABAMA
GUEST SPEAKER

FAIRVIEW
CHURCH OF CHRIST
SPARTANBURG, S. C.

WILL CONDUCT A SERIES OF
GOSPEL MEETINGS
March 28 - April 3

SERVICE
7:30 P. M. EACH WEEK DAY
11 A. M. AND 7:30 P. M. SUNDAY

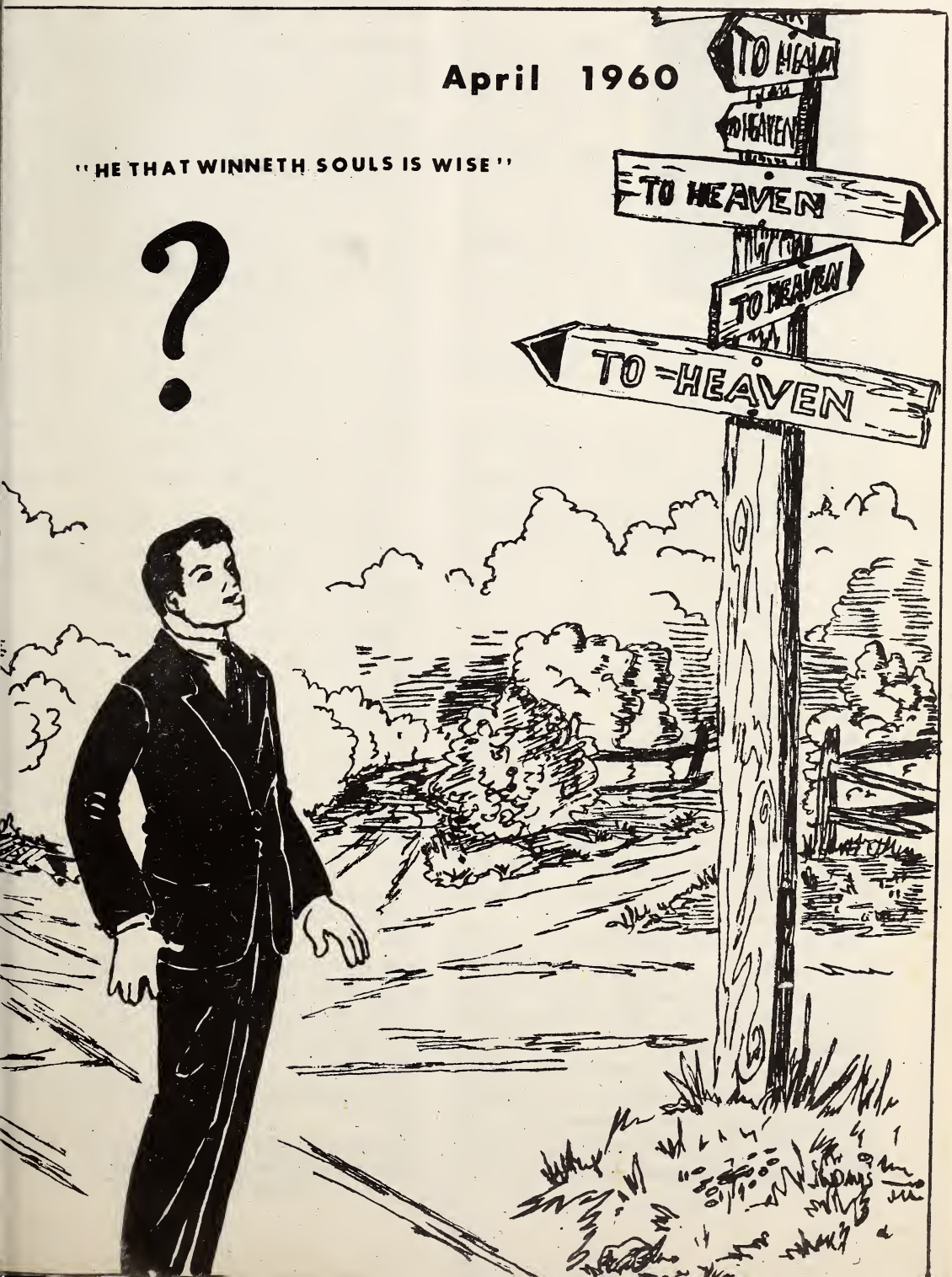
ERNEST THIGPEN
GREENVILLE, S. C.
GUEST SPEAKER

Singing March 27th at 2:30 P. M.

Carolina
Messenger of Truth

April 1960

"HE THAT WINNETH SOULS IS WISE"



SOUL WINNING by God's Power

James S. Woodroof
W. Columbia, S. C.



"For no word from God shall be void of power." Lk. 1:37). This statement is just as true today as it was the day it was spoken to Mary by the angel of God. And just as it was spoken to produce faith in Mary toward the promise of God, so today, that statement still assures us that "all things are possible with God".

Man has for 2,000 years been living in the age of ultimate spiritual power. We are living in the gospel age. This power was generated by the touching off of the mainspring of the wonderful LOVE of GOD. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son..." And, "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the POWER of GOD unto salvation." It is powerful to God - sufficient to atone. It is powerful to man - sufficient to bring back and render submissive. But:

What Is the Power that the Gospel Possesses? The very nature of the gospel is that of saving force. It is God's power to save! Hence, the power required of the gospel, which power it certainly possesses, is the power to move men to the obedience of God's will, for that is the basis of salvation. Let us note:

The power of the gospel exerts itself in two directions. (1) It Re-strains (Gal. 5: 17) and (2) it Con-strains (II Cor. 5:14). It restrains us from doing evil and constrains us to do good.

Also, the gospel's power is manifested in one of two other ways in each person. It is powerful (1) to save and (2) to condemn. Mk. 16:15, 16 mentions both of these powers. See also Lk. 2:34.

But now we find that God's power to win souls of men has been placed by God primarily in the hands of three basic constraining forces. They are: (1) Faith, (2) Hope, (3) Love. (I Cor. 13:13). Strip the gospel of these three and it would be powerless. As God planned it, it is powerful enough to save the whole world.

I. There Is Power In Faith - "...to everyone that believeth..." (Rom. 1:16). Faith - a motivating force of staggering proportions. There are few, if any, limitations to what a man can do who has faith in himself. How much more power will a man find who has faith in God!

Faith is powerful before God. It is that quality that God desires within us, without which we cannot be saved. But it is also powerful in man. It is that basic force that motivates man to action, and without spiritual action (obedience) man is doomed! II Thess. 1:8; I Pet. 4:17.

In Hebrews, chapter 11, we see clearly that faith is a motivating force. "By faith even Sarah herself received POWER...to conceive..." So then, couple the power of faith itself with the worthiness and power of Him in whom we have this faith, and it is no wonder that a sinner can become a child of the Almighty God. Jno. 1:12; Gal. 3:26.

II. There Is Power in Love. Yes, and its wonderful power is not restricted to simply motivating mortals. Love naturally motivates Him who is Himself LOVE. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son..." When man then sees that love that God has shown us, man loves God in return. "But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love toward man appeared..." Titus 3:4. "The love of Christ constraineth us." II Cor. 5:14. "We love because he first loved us." I John. 4:19.

You can read about the power of love in I Cor 13.

You can see the power of love in a mother's constant care of her children.

(see page 10)

... THRU EXAMPLES

Olan Hicks
High Point, N. C.



God has so designed his plan for saving man that the principle of "example" is a very prominent part of it. Just as man is endowed with a natural inward desire to worship a being greater than himself, and the expression of that natural tendency helps lead him to true worship of God, even so man also has within himself a natural tendency to "copy", to adopt into his own disposition some of the characteristics of persons and things about him, especially those with which he is most impressed, and this tendency also serves an important purpose in leading us to Christ and causing us to lead others. But just as the inward desire to worship may be misguided and actually turned into the Devil's service, so the natural response to examples might be turned into an instrument of unrighteousness if not properly directed.

God has given us both the natural characteristic and the means with which to capitalize upon it. There is in every person that natural tendency. We remember that as a boy in school we "idolized" certain of the older boys and often attempted to pattern after them. "Hero-worship" is entirely natural and God placed it there to serve a good purpose in his plan. But it MUST be properly directed. It is an essential part of God's plan and explicitly commanded. In the scriptures we find that we have a two fold responsibility in the matter. (1) We must CHOOSE examples approved of God; and (2) we must BE examples approved of God.

In I Pet. 2:21 we read that we are called to walk in the steps of Christ as an example. "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow in his steps." And oh, how different is this example than the "hero" of most people today. Our favorite cowboy star, whose guns and fists blaze a trail of vengeance across the screen as he "evens things up" for the oppressed townspeople, may have a good principle in aiding the distressed. Yet how different are the methods of operation from those of Bible characters. Peter continued regarding Christ, "Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered he threatened not, but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously." (v. 23). God intends that Jesus be our "hero", that we admire his example so much that our own character will reflect it. This is not optional. Jesus said, "And whosoever doth not bear his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." (Lk. 14:27). As long as our minds remain fixed in admiration upon things of this world, our personality will develop accordingly and we cannot be the Lord's disciple.

Paul emphasized the principle of example in I Cor. 11:1 as he said, "Be ye imitators of me as I am of Christ". (RSV) Yes it's right to follow the examples of godly men, but ONLY as they follow Christ. Inspirational examples can often be found in true followers of Christ which prove to be very helpful in walking the Christian pathway. Paul wrote to Timothy, "Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers." (I Tim. 4:12).

A definite part of God's plan for "soul winning" is the example. It can be a strong force in saving both yourself and those around you. Therefore, "Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this, thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." (I Tim. 4:16). Your character WILL develop in one sphere or another. Largely it will be based on "patterns" you admire.

(see page 5)

...by Leadership and Workers

Wayman Love
Asheville, N. C.

The church of our Lord suffers in many locations due to the lack of proper leadership in its work. Gospel preachers, I suppose, more than some other members of the church, are more aware of this fact, due to their moving from place to place and working with various types of congregations, urban, rural, large, small, etc. Lack of a strong leadership and trained workers will hinder the growth of the church in all its phases, but this is especially true as it regards the winning of souls for the Lord.

In Hopkinsville, Kentucky there is a milk company known as the George L. Adkins Dairy. The slogan of this company has been and is "Let George Do It". George does a good milk business and who would say that these four words have had nothing to do with his success? However, in the Lord's work, in the great majority of cases, the work will be left undone if we leave it for someone to accomplish. When it comes to the winning of souls we must realize that we are undertaking the greatest task in the world. We need proper guidance and instruction. There would be no better group of individuals to help in this endeavor than a qualified eldership (I Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9). Will you please note that I said a qualified eldership? Many elders are appointed to watch over the affairs of the church who cannot even look after the affairs of their own household. If an eldership is to carry on the work efficiently, it must be composed of men who have had experience in the winning of the souls of men and women. If elders know the emphasis placed upon the necessity of obeying the gospel as outlined in the Word, surely they would want to do all within their power to set up programs within the local congregation, over which they have been given the oversight, to win more to the Lamb of God.

Then comes the idea of workers--trained workers. It is true that the elders cannot do all the teaching, personal work, etc., that must be done within the local congregation. Many times this falls upon the preacher for, after all, he has had the training to do this type of work. Such reasoning may be true but it is not the duty of the preacher alone to do all the work for the elders either. We need to train more to carry some of the load that the elders and preachers are generally expected to do.

So much of our teaching has been done on the street corners, or maybe in some instances in the homes of prospects, by those who used little or no tact and knew less about the teaching of the Bible. Oh yes, we know much about certain points that we generally refer to as doctrine, but we need to know more of the whole Book. I am certain that many people have become discouraged and even disgusted with the New Testament Church because of this type of worker -- the untrained worker. When we realize that this not only may happen, but that it has happened many, many times in the past, we can readily see that we have a great and urgent need among God's people today for classes, instructing how to work with people to the end that they may be saved.

We have just recently begun a class along this line at the Vance Street congregation in Asheville. There are four or five books written along this line, that is, on how to approach and work with people in personal work. I'm certain that all of them are good. However, our group chose to use "You Can Do Personal Work" by Otis Gatewood. I have used this course several times before and find that it will get results if applied. We certainly believe all will be better qualified, through this training course, to be better soul winners.

It is a certain thing that congregations are failing when they do not develop a STRONG LEADERSHIP, one that can see the great need today for TRAINED WORK-

(see page 6)

...by Personal Work

Ernest Thigpen
Greenville, S. C.

There is a definite need for Christians to do personal work in this age in which we live. The world still lies in wickedness. The harvest is still great and the labourers few. Many of all races are yet lost in sin; and the only hope of salvation for the majority of them may lie in Christians contacting them individually and personally striving to win them to faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to Him. It should be a heavy burden upon us to know that multitudes of men, women and children are dead in sins and trespasses and so little being done in the field of personal work to turn them from the error of their way unto Christ and life eternal through Him. As Christians, our spirit should be stirred within us and move us to be striving in season and out of season to help seek and save that which is lost.

Personal work in the life of a Christian is scripturally approved and emphasized as an effective means of reaching and saving the lost. Phillip personally taught the Ethiopian eunuch. The members of the Jerusalem church which were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word. The apostle Paul taught publicly and from house to house. Certainly there could be no doubt that one of the outstanding factors which contributed greatly to the rapid spread and growth of the church in the first century was personal work--the personal efforts and influences of Christians upon the individuals with which they came in contact. Jesus himself was a great personal worker who found many opportunities to deal with individuals.

The opportunities for this type of effort to reach the lost are unlimited, and the advantages of it are inumerable. Personal work can be performed practically everywhere. It is not hindered by many of the barriers which would forbid public preaching and teaching. Opportunities can always be found and only seldom would it be the wrong time. The apostle Paul found many occasions to use this method of reasoning with men concerning the truth that would make them free. His personal work went on even while he was in prison. He took advantage of the opportunity that presented itself as he stood before such men as the governor Felix and king Agrippa. This method of reaching the lost is superior, in certain aspects, to other types. For instance, it can reach all ages and all classes of people. It can meet the specific need of each individual which is a definite advantage. In fact, in certain cases, it could be the only means of reaching some. It is positively an effective way to move people, and often times it is used by the forces of evil to lead people to accept and follow the commands and traditions of men. Some of the present day sects would long ago have perished if it had not been for the diligent personal work done by their members.

We, who are the members of the body of Christ, everyone of us, can do some personal work. We can go to the highways and hedges, streets and lanes of the city, or wherever the lost can be found, and do our part to save some who otherwise would be lost eternally. Many will be saved by public preaching and teaching of the gospel of Christ, but if the gospel is ever to reach the heart of every creature, it will, in a large measure, be taken there personally by individual Christians. May we have a genuine love for the lost and a fervent desire to work to see them saved.

EXAMPLES (cont'd)

Set up Christ and his closest followers for patterns. Be sure you FOLLOW good exanples which will enable you to BE a good example. "In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works." (Titus 2:7).

...thru the Bible School

Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.
Goldsboro, N. C.



Winning (and keeping) souls is an essential ingredient of the good Bible School program (John 6: 44, 45; Eph. 4: 11 - 15). Every Bible teacher, every Bible class student, every church member must be thoroughly saturated with an enthusiastic zeal for winning people by means of one of the most powerful tools available to the church: the Bible School. This is one means everyone can use effectively in soul-winning.

The "small church complex" hinders many teaching programs. Some are convinced that the techniques and principles used successfully by large churches will not possibly work on a small scale and are afraid to launch out. But no church ever got big by accident, but solely because someone planned and worked to make it big! Still others are satisfied to be small and are really afraid they will get big.

Here are some specific suggestions which will help build a soul-winning Bible School program for churches:

(1) Preachers and church leaders should maintain a high degree of enthusiasm for the Bible School program which will in turn permeate every teacher, member, Bible class pupil and visitor. At least four sermons should be preached on the Bible School every year--one every quarter. Bulletin articles, bulletin board material and public announcements should be seen and heard by the church frequently.

(2) Offer as many classes as possible. Divide the classes when needed and when possible, depending on facilities, teachers and equipment available.

(3) Keep records; insist on teachers following up on absentees, new enrollees, visitors, prospects. Keep the church informed about growth.

(4) Train the teachers. Have regular meetings; use training filmstrips; inspire them with new ideas, with the idea of visiting the homes of the pupils; provide them with good self - improvement literature books and magazines (subscribe to a bundle of the Christian Bible Teacher magazine for your teachers).

(5) Pay close attention to curriculum needs of the classes. Order plenty of materials, filmstrips, audio aids, flamel - graph materials, etc., for all classes. Never hold back on furnishing the best you possibly can for your Bible classes.

(6) Provide the best possible facilities you can afford--large, attractive rooms furnished and equipped as best the church can afford. There are few investments which will pay better and bigger dividends.

(7) Set frequent Bible School attendance goals -- four per year is better than one yearly. Publicize these goals; send promotion letters to all teachers, to each pupil, to former visitors, prospects, etc. Emphasize the goal as an effort to win souls rather than to merely achieve number success.

(8) Send "Bible School letters" to parents of newly born babies, to newcomers, etc.

(9) Show special interest in the children who attend, the visitors, etc. Call them by name, talk to them, invite them to come back, to bring their parents.

LEADERSHIP and WORKERS (cont'd)

ERS. As a member of a local congregation, will you earnestly consider the seriousness of this problem as it relates to your local group?

§§§§§§§§§

If for any reason you do not receive your paper, please notify us!!

...VS. THE LOVE OF MONEY

Noyles E. Sewell
Wilmington, N. C.



There is a financial side to almost everything, even soul-winning. It takes money to support a preacher; it takes money to build a church building; it takes money to provide literature for Bible classes; it takes money to buy time on the radio or space in the newspaper. Money is involved, either directly or indirectly, in every soul-winning endeavor of the church. It is no accident that only the liberal congregations are growing, soul-winning congregations. The same principle applies to the individual soul-winner, or personal worker. He must be willing to give of his time and money. It takes money to operate an automobile to and from the prospect's house; it takes money to provide tracts to leave with the prospect, and it takes much money if filmstrips and projector are used. Millions, who could be won for Christ, will die lost because congregations and individuals will not put their money to work for the Lord in soul-winning. Truly, "the love of money is the root of all evil" - I Tim. 6:10. Many new soul-winning ideas could be developed were it not for the fact that they involve money. The love of money may keep many Christians from taking a prospective family out to dinner in order to pave the way for a later Bible study. The love of money may keep others from providing proper clothing for a needy family, so that they might attend the worship services of the church. The love of money may keep you from subscribing to the Carolina Messenger of Truth for your friends and relatives who need to know the truth. The love of money may keep you from sending some young person from a non-Christian family to the Carolina Bible Camp where Bible teaching and Christian association will do much toward winning them to the Lord. The choice is - USE or LOSE. Use your money for the Lord or lose your soul to the Devil. Many make the choice of the rich young ruler (Luke 18). Let them be assured that, like that selfish individual, they too have turned away from the Lord. "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." - Matt. 6:24. Reader, put your faith in the promise of God regarding money; "He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly, and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully"..... in soul-winning.

..... THROUGH NEW METHODS

Dabney Phillips
Chester, S. C.

Active congregations of the Lord will employ every scriptural means at their disposal to preach the gospel. All of us know the effectiveness of radio programs in many areas of our work. This article shall deal with the use of filmstrips and television as mediums of teaching the word of the Lord.

It is true that learning becomes quicker when both the eye as well as the ear is entered. The armed forces, public schools and businesses recognized the power of visual education. Why should the church fail to utilize this effective means of teaching?

There are safeguards that must be employed. First, as to the use of filmstrips and slides, it must be understood that they are not used for entertainment, but as a method of imparting a lesson. Second, there is the problem of the truthfulness of the material presented. Fortunately, there are available strips and slides prepared by our brethren. The writer employs these visual aids in cottage meetings and on Sunday evenings. Non-members

(see page 9)

... and Advertizing

T. A. Isaacs
Charlotte, N. C.



The business that wishes to sell its product must constantly keep this product before the public. This is normally done thro' the medium of advertizing. The Lord's church is the greatest business in the world and it has the most marvelous product of all times to sell to lost men and women, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Yet we spend so very little money to advertize the church and the gospel. I have before me two of the budgets of two of the larger congregations in North and South Carolina. This is what these budgets reveal: one of them having a budget of over $23,000 has not one single penny allocated for advertizing; the other with a budget of over $23,000 has just a little over 1% in the budget for this purpose. I believe these two budgets to be indicative of the very little advertizing done by the greatest business in all the world with the most wonderful product in any section of the country.

I believe we can learn a valuable lesson from the business world in regard to this matter of advertizing. Jesus said, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Lk. 16:8), and this is certainly true with this matter of advertizing. Let me illustrate: the Buick division of General Motors spends 24 million a year for advertizing; RCA advertizes to the tune of 12 million annually; Lipton Tea keeps its product before the public through this medium at a cost of 5 and 1/2 million each year. We can see from these figures the importance placed upon advertizing in the business world. But let me give you some more figures that should startle us into the realization that we need to advertize the church and the gospel. It is a sad commentary on life when those things which seek to destroy the church and the gospel spend more than we do for advertizing purposes. Segram Liquors are advertized annually at a cost of $4,100,000; Schenley Liquors spend 3 and 1/2 million; Jacob Ruppert spends, to advertize its beer products, 3 million each year. I would like to give just one more illustration and this one is of a religious nature: Oral Roberts, in his evangelistic (?) campaigns, spent 2 million dollars last year.

No doubt someone is thinking, "Well we just do not have the money to advertize", and I know that in many cases we are limited yet have you ever stopped to think how much FREE advertizing is open to churches. Most all newspapers now have a religious section in which they are glad to give free advertizement for special events. I have found it very profitable to get to know the religious editors of the papers here in Charlotte and we have received much free publicity from them. The radio stations usually have spots in their programming schedule for public service announcements. Just recently every station in the city of Charlotte announced, free of charge, the new Daily-Dial-A-Devotional we have installed. Incidentally, here is one of the cheapest and most effective ways to advertize the church in your community, the Daily-Dial-A-Devotional. The two weeks we have had this service in Charlotte have been phenomenal. We have estimated that the name of the church has gone out over these lines between 2 and 3 thousand times daily. The service has become so large that the phone company is making us take it out until other arrangements can be made to adequately serve the public. By securing a postal permit, thousands can be reached in your community through the U. S. Mail at a cost of only 1¢ per item. The telephone is a powerful weapon to advertize the church. With the efforts of just a few,

(see page 10)

... its Motivating Power

O. P. Baird
Columbia, S. C.

"Why did my Savior come to earth? Why did He drink the bitter cup of sorrow, pain and woe? Why on the cross be lifted up? Because He loved me so!"

If we know what made Jesus come and die we know what makes a church win souls. The church is Christ's body and He is the Head of it (Eph. 1:22, 23; Col. 1:18; I Cor. 12). The purpose of the Head is the purpose of the body. To accomplish the purpose of Christ the church must have the same motive as Christ.

Why did Jesus come and die? We were lost and He wanted us saved. He loved us so that He came to "seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). In His boundless love He was even willing to drink the painful, sorrowful cup of the cross.

Having the mind of Christ makes a church of Christ win souls. "Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5). That passage goes on to show what the mind of Christ caused Him to do: "Who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross" (verses 6-8). He did that to save the lost. If we have the same mind that was in Him it will cause us to seek to win souls. "The love of God hath been shed abroad in our hearts" (Rom. 5:5) and that love will impel us to seek and save those whom the Lord and we love so much.

Appreciation for salvation makes a church win souls. "We love, because he first loved us" (I John 4:19). When Jesus cast the demons out of the man and let them go into the swine, He said to the man, "Go to thy house unto thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee" (Mark 5:19). The man did as Jesus commanded because he loved Him and was grateful for what He had done for him. He wants us to be thankful and go and tell.

A church wins souls because of its desire to be saved. The gain for ourselves is not to be ignored as a motive in serving God. Paul told Timothy how he could save both himself and others (I Tim. 4:16). Christ has given the church a purpose. He has appointed it to be "the pillar and ground of the truth" (I Tim. 3:15). If a church is not "holding forth the word of life" (Phil. 2:16) it is not fulfilling its mission as a church of Christ.

The fields are white unto harvest. We must work before the night comes. Let us run to gather souls for Christ. Think of how happy we shall all be with the Lord, and that very soon!

NEW METHODS (cont'd)

frequently will attend a service when they know that a "Bible Picture" is going to be presented. Several have used these mediums successfully in their vacation Bible school

Television offers a greater challenge than radio, but these increased responsibilities increase the amount of preperation. The Herald of Truth's success vindicates our feeling of using television to preach to the lost. The eye appeal is one of the assets of preaching via television. Passages of scripture flashed on the screen at the proper time have a lasting effect. May the Lord of heaven help us to employ these means to the glory of his church. There is something in the Chinese Proverb that says, "One picture is worth a million words." The Carolinas have witnessed the value of using radio, filmstrips, slides, and television in breaking the bread of life to those who hunger after the truth.

GOD'S POWER (cont'd)

You can feel the power of love when you realize that someone loves you without measure or bounds, and are then constrained to return that love. Such is the power of love in the gospel. "We love because he first loved us."

III. There Is Power In Hope. What can not be endured if there is hope of a better day? Hope acts as an anchor of the soul. Heb. 6:19. It is the stabilizer on a ship. The gospel alone offers lost humanity the hope of a perfect day. How powerless one is who has no hope to strengthen him in life. How pitiful one is who has no hope to sustain him in death. "In the night of death, hope sees a star, and the listening love hears the rustle of a wing," said Robert Ingersol, an atheist who had not the hope of the gospel, and yet saw the need of it in the night of death.

Implant within a man faith and trust in God and Christ, convince him of the "great love wherewith they have loved us", ascend the mountain of faith with him, point to that great city that hath foundations whose builder and maker is God, his hope, and if he is convinced of it, there is no power under heaven that can keep him from obeying that wonderful Gospel! It is no wonder that Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation". Let the power of the gospel work in your life.

ADVERTIZING (cont'd)

thousands could be contacted in a day's time inviting them to the services of the church or calling their attention to special events. The TV in our section is limited because of RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION but we are praying the day will come when this obstacle can be overcome.

Brethren, investigate every channel for free advertizing in your community and use it to the fullest extent. Encourage those in the position of leadership where you attend to allocate a certain portion of the budget every year for advertizing, then investigate these ways we have suggested and use that money in the best way in your own community.

Remember in all of this that our purpose in advertizing is really threefold: first of all, we want to build the good-will of the community in which we live; second, advertize to interest people in the church and its services and third, advertize with the supreme purpose in mind of selling the Gospel to lost men and women for "the gospel is the power of God unto salvation".

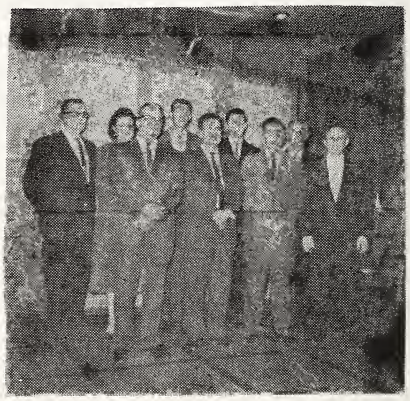
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COVER PICTURE

Many thanks to J. W. Davis, Sitka, Alaska, for the cover sketch drawn especially for this issue on "Soul Winning". It is wonderful to be able to call on such a talented person as Jim for this service.

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ASHEVILLE MEETING



Eleven were present for the area meeting held March 18 regarding the Carolina Messenger of Truth. Those pictured are: Ed Davis, Seneca, S. C., Mrs. James A. Davis, Hendersonville, N. C., Carlton Elkins, Bryson City, N. C., James A. Davis, Hendersonville, N. C., Bob Rigdon, Sylva, N. C., James Castleberry, Waynesville, N. C., Wayman Love, Asheville, N. C., Dwain Ginn, Franklin, N. C. and Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C. Also present but not pictured were Gene Taylor and Bill Smith both of Greenville.

NEWS

DUNCAN, S. C.
Milton S. Parker, Evangelist

After a lag, because of much sickness among the members and the extremely bad weather, the attendance and interest are on the increase again.

Bro. James S. McDonald, Jr., of Union, S. C. will do the preaching in our meeting, April 25th through May 1st. Services daily at 7:30 p. m.

As of February 1st, the officers of the congregation are: Elders: Paul Rodgers, J. W. DeYoung; Deacons: Henray Bailey, Elmer O. Smith DeLacy Phillips, and Spencer Kelly.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad St. Congregation
Harold Scott, Evangelist

The cottage meeting studies conducted the men of the congregation, using the filmstrip projector and the tape recorder, which were begun in February, have increased in March so that we had one scheduled every nite in the week, except Sunday and Wednesday. We hope that in April we can expand this program even further, using two projectors.

During March a teacher training program was taught for one week, using filmstrips, discussion groups, and demonstration classes on Wednesday evening of that

STATESVILLE continued:

week. Brethren David Bryant and Harold Simmons each conducted one class, also.

A series of guest speakers on Wednesday evenings was begun in March and will continue through April.

There was one baptism and one restoration this month. We lacked only $ 80 reaching our budget for the month.

ALBEMARLE, N. C.
Frank R. Milton, Evangelist

The church here has had an increase in attendance to an all-time high. The average attendance up to three months ago was 23, but for the past three months our average has been 26.

Our radio program has also been a source of much encouragement lately. We have used Radio Station WABZ for the past 18 months with a program called "A Plea For The Restoration of Bible Authority in Religion." This station has a power of 1,000 watts, and covers the county very well. We have received word from listeners from as far as 80 miles away. Many people from the community attended as a result of this program. However, since we have changed to the other station (WZKY, 250 watts), the response has been even greater. We offer a Bible Correspondence Course, called "Searching the Scripture" by Don Gardner, and also "A Condensed Circular Cyclopedia" by Dee Baker and T. P.

ALBEMARLE continued:

Brown. The latter is offered to those who send in comments or questions. The program is broadcast at 8:45 each Sunday, and we call it The Bread of Life, or, "The Sunday School of the Air." We use the subject listed in the International Sunday School Series. Since most church goers are working on their Sunday School lessons about this time, we seem to have almost a blanket coverage. We hope to have signs on all the highways soon advertising this program.

Bro. C. C. Pinkston, who is our local song leader has recently been teaching the young children a few minutes before Bible Class each Sunday morning, and this has attracted much interest. We have more children in this class now than our entire membership a year ago.

Brother Riley Moore, of Columbia, Tennessee, will be the speaker in our meeting beginning May 15th. Brother Moore is widely known for his ability in preaching the gospel. He will also bring his pictures made in Palestine. We will notify you regarding the date for showing these pictures later. The meeting will be conducted in a tent in one of the parks here in Albemarle.

DON'T FORGET -- Send in your news reports by the 20th of each month. This is the very latest date we can receive them, and still print them.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
2201 Poinsett Hwy.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

Since our last report one has been baptized. April 1 completes one year of service for us with this congregation. We have witnessed 5 baptisms, 12 restorations, and 10 identifications. The total membership is now 84.

The Lord willing, we will move to Hartwell, Georgia on August 1st to labor with the church there.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

During 1959, attendance averaged 80 for Bible Study, and 97 for morning worship, with a contribution average of $114.90.

A budget of $ 135.00 per week has been set for 1960. In recent weeks, the 5 filmstrips produced by Jule Miller were shown just preceding the Sunday evening worship, provoking quite a lot of interest. During February, the congregation began offering a Bible correspondence course.

Bro. C. W. Bradley is to be with us in a meeting here May 9 through 17th.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

During March thus far one has been baptized and one faithful family moved here from Sumter, S. C. On April 4th we will begin the greatest effort ever put forth

WILMINGTON continued:

here to reach the colored folk with the gospel. A meeting house has been rented, advertising printed, the signs painted, sound trucks rented, and a fine evangelistic team secured to make this a meeting that will have an impact on Wilmington.

Quincy Carter, of Statesville, will preach, Chester Vaughn of Camden, S. C. will lead the singing. A. J. Lyons of Jacksonville, N. C. will assist in the personal work and will continue to work here each Lord's day if a congregation is established a result of the meeting. Sister congregations are assisting in financing this one-month campaign.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

Corlis Scroggins of Jacksonville, N. C. is now doing most of the preaching here. A corner lot in a good location has recently been purchased.

CAMDEN, S. C.
Sewell Hall, Evangelist

The annual Spring Meeting of the McRae Road church in Camden will be conducted on April 17-24. Bill Hall, of Atmore, Alabama, will be the speaker. Services will be each evening at 7:30.

BETHUNE, S. C.
Sewell Hall, Reporting

A meeting was conducted by the Bethune church March

BETHUNE continued:

7-11, by Lynn Headrick of Birmingham, Ala. In spite of cold weather and extensive sickness, good interest was shown. Work is beginning on the new building being erected one mile SW of Bethune on Highway No. One.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

The recent snows and bad weather caused our attendance to drop a little last month. However, they are showing improvement now that the weather is somewhat better. Since our report last month, we have had three to respond to the Lord's invitation. They acknowledged wrong and asked for prayer.

We are looking forward to our gospel meeting April 10 through 17th with Brother B. Edward Davis, of Seneca, S. Carolina, as the visiting evangelist. We covet the prayers of other Christians in behalf of the work here.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evang.

This congregation added some new pulpit furniture to the auditorium in February. We also began sending $10.00 per month to the new congregation in Greenville, S. C. Our spring meeting with Bro. Yarbrough Leigh of Tallahassee, Florida, preaching will be April 10th through 17th.

SHARE YOUR NEWS!
REPORT EACH MONTH!

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
54 Vance Street
Wayman Love, Evangelist

The building of the Vance Street church is now complete. This week we finished the basement classrooms. There are six rooms in the basement, and enough additional rooms on the main floor for 4 more classes.

Since the first of 1960 two have been baptized.

CHESTER, S. C.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

One man was baptized during February at Chester, uniting one family in Christ. Weather and illness affected our attendance slightly during February. March, at its mid-point, apparently will see another record established, attendance-wise. We are having six to eight non-members attending our Sunday services. By the time this report is read, our meeting with Newton Gribble of Selma Alabama will have been completed. The Carolina Messenger of Truth continues to be read with interest in our area.

KINSTON, N. C.
Nelson Smith, Evangelist

We began using our new church building in Kinston the first Sunday in January, although it is not entirely finished. A formal opening and open house will be held sometime in May. A definite date will be announced. Two have been baptized recently.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Oscar P. Craft, Reporting

Since our last report the church here has witnessed 3 confessions of wrong, and 1 identification. If you have any friends or relatives in our vicinity we would like to receive their names and addresses so that we may get in touch with them.

The church is located at Tophat and Ike Street, just off Bragg Blvd. We extend an invitation to all to stop and visit with us.

The church is still in need of a full-time preacher to work here. At present the men of the congregation are doing the speaking.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
Wendover Ave. Congregation
Albert A. Gonce, Evangelist

Recently we have had four baptisms. One of these was during the gospel meeting with C. W. Bradley, of Winston-Salem. The church here is "pressing on the upward" way.

SENECA, S. C.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

We have just recently begun a new teachers' training course. Filmstrips will be used in conjunction with the lessons. Recently one was restored to duty, and one rejected the errors of the Christian church. The Jule Miller filmstrips are being used with success here. Our radio program continues to provoke interest.

REMARKABLE PROGRESS BEING SEEN IN BARNWELL, S. C.

On August 4, 1957, a little band of 17 Christians met together in a rented hall to begin a permanent work for the Lord in Barnwell, S. C. These 17 Christians had been worshiping in Williston, S. C. about fourteen miles away. They, with the full counsel, support, and endorsement of the Williston congregation, determined to firmly plant the cause of Christ in this town of approximately 6000 people. From this beginning until the end of 1957, four more Christians started meeting and working with the original seventeen.

On the second day of January 1958, a full-time evangelist, Jimmy Dorris, was sent to Barnwell with full support from the congregation which meets at 3805 Granny White Pike, in Nashville, Tennessee. A full schedule of work was begun almost immediately, and has continued with many additions since that time.

The work, in addition to the Sunday morning and Sunday evening worship services is briefly outlined here:

(1) A fifteen minute radio program broadcast from the local radio station six days per week.

(2) Currently, we have 12 cottage meeting Bible classes being conducted in homes in this area.

(3) A weekly schedule of organized classes, including four Sunday morning classes, a Wednesday afternoon young people's personal work class a Wednesday evening session, consisting of four classes, a Thursday afternoon ladies' Bible study, and a monthly teachers' training class. A men's training class recently was concluded.

(4) A special work at the local prison, including a counselling program, and a Sunday afternoon Bible class.

(5) Bible correspondence courses are now being offered. At present we have approximately 100 enrolled.

(6) A hospital visitation program, with visits being made usually four days each week. Appropriate literature is left with those who are visited.

(7) Each week letters are sent to our visitors, and a follow-up visit is made to the home of each local visitor.

(8) A sympathy letter and a special edition of 20th Century Christian Magazine are sent to the family of each deceased person in this area.

(9) A letter is sent to the parents of each newborn baby in the community, congratulating them, and inviting them to our services.

(10) A program of benevolent work aids from 2 to 6 families in the community each week.

(11) Tracts are used extensively by some of the members. They are distributed in the hospitals, places

BARNWELL continued:

of business, and individual homes. Tracts are sent to the homes of all who desire to receive them each week.

(12) One Sunday per month we conduct a devotional service in the only nursing home for elderly people in the county.

This program of work has contributed greatly to the growth of the church. Since January 1958 through December 1959 we had 99 responses to the invitation, including baptisms, restorations, and identifications. Our total membership now stands at 80.

Another source of encouragement and progress is the way in which our attendance has steadily increased. Almost every month sees a new record established at each of the services. Our contribution is also increasing with a record of $410.16 being established through '59.

Perhaps the greatest one hindrance to our work is the lack of a building. As soon as adequate funds can be secured, a building will be erected. Outside help will be solicited. However, the church is forging ahead with plans for a zealous program in the future. We believe that the principle stated in Matthew 6:33 applies to congregations, as well as to individual Christians, and are not willing to allow the lack of a building hinder an active program of work in the kingdom of our Lord.

"OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS"

Beginning with this issue of the Messenger, we will in this space each month publish the names of preachers wishing to move to the Carolinas to work, and churches that are needing preachers. We realize this first list will undoubtedly be incomplete, but we ask for the cooperation of everyone in keeping us informed regarding these opportunities:

PREACHERS TO CONTACT:

Lloyd Spivey
C/o Maplewood church
3530 Falling Springs Rd.
East St. Louis, Ill.

Bob Plunkett's father
Contact James Woodroof
1449 "B" Avenue
West Columbia, S. C.,
or, Bob Plunkett
121 W. Cleveland Ave.
Spartanburg, S. C.

Bob Bryson
824 Meigs Avenue
Jeffersonville, Ind.

Bill Stewart
P. O. Box 247
Decatur, Texas

CHURCHES TO CONTACT:

Tryon, N. C.
Hickory, N. C.
Fayetteville, N. C.
Chester, S. C.
Durham, N. C.
Pike Road, N. C.
Buncombe Road, Greenville,
South Carolina

-- News Editor --

ATTENTION PLEASE!

We have received a letter from Brother Wilson Burton, of David Lipscomb College, Nashville, Tennessee informing us that he would like to obtain the names and addresses of the churches in this area that are looking for preachers. He tells us he is interested in mission-work, and would be happy to encourage the graduates from Lipscomb to move to either North or South Carolina. If your congregation is not included in the list we are publishing in this issue, and would like to correspond with Bro. Burton, you may contact him at the following address:

P. O. Box 393
David Lipscomb College
Nashville 5, Tennessee

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

We have been blessed with new records in attendance at Northeast recently. There were 55 in Bible Study, 63 in morning worship, 49 in evening worship, 44 in mid-week Bible study. The film-strip, "Now That I Am A Christian," is currently being shown on Sunday evening. When in Greenville, worship with us.

Bro. Nelson Smith, Box 1083, Kinston, N. C. would like to hear from all preachers who are not listed in the 1959 issue of Carolina Directory.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

Even though the Carolinas are filled with wonderful opportunities for planting the kingdom of our Lord, the city of Bamberg, S. C. seems to be outstandingly ready to receive the Gospel. Bamberg itself has a population of 4,000, and is the county seat of Bamberg County, population 20,000. Radio Station WWBD, 1000 watts, operates here. Highway 301, one of the main arteries south, bisects the city. There are presently nine members of the church living in Bamberg who are now worshiping either at Orangeburg, 17 miles away, or in Barnwell, 20 miles away. A tent meeting was held in the city in 1956 by Bro. Noyles E. Sewell, and a radio program was being heard during 1958. The Christians who live in this city are sincerely interested in finding a man who will consent to locate here and strive to establish the work on a firm basis. If you are interested in receiving more information, please contact either Bro. Berry Griffin, Box 289, Route # 1, Bamberg, or, Bro. Noyles E. Sewell, 2835 Carolina Beach Road, Wilmington, N. C.

ADDITIONAL COPIES of this special issue on "Soul Winning" are available at .08 per copy for 25 or more. Use it in your personal work!

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW!



NORTHEAST CHURCH, GREENVILLE, S. C.

The above photograph shows part of the regular Sunday morning crowd at the Northeast church, and the building the congregation rents for its meeting place.

BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT!

Make your plans now to attend the Blue Ridge Encampment, near Asheville, North Carolina, this year. An outstanding program of speakers and teachers is arranged. Several brethren from the Carolinas will give a report on the mission work being done in these two states. So, mark the month of June, and be present for the entire program. A more detailed announcement will appear in the Messenger in the near future. Watch for it!

BRO. ISAAC GLEATON PASSES!

We regret to report the passing of Bro. Isaac Gleaton, minister of the colored church in Andrews, South Carolina. No details of his passing have been reported to us at this writing.

CAROLINA LECTURES!

The South Main St. Church in Winston-Salem, N. C. will be host this year to the Carolina Lectures. Bro. J. D. Parker, minister of the church, has announced that the dates will be May 2nd through 6th. Why not make your plans to stay the entire week? In the past, the Carolina Lectures have been a real source of inspiration and encouragement to everyone who attended. The fellowship alone would be worth every sacrifice you might make! Brethren from every corner of the Carolinas will be present, to speak and teach the Word of the Lord. Be sure to attend!

NOTICE --- Check the numbers by your name and address, for expiration date of subscription.

RADIO AND TELEVISION GUIDE

"SUNDAY"

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia	7:30 p. m.
WHAN, Charleston	2:30 p. m.
WBTW, Channel 8, Florence	11:30 p. m.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 p. m.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia	2:30 p. m.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington	Noon
WJMX,	2:30 p. m.
WKIX,	5:30 p. m.
WKIT, Durham	5:30 p. m.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 p. m.
WSAT, Salisbury	2:30 p. m.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill	6:35 p. m.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter	5:35 p. m.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill	5:35 p. m.
WJRI; Lenoir	5:35 p. m.
WGNT, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 p. m.
WHSC, 1450, Hartsville	5:35 p. m.
WRRZ, Clinton	2:30 p. m.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham	9:15 a. m.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 a. m.
WTOB, 1380, Winston-Salem	9:15 a. m.
WHIP, Mooresville	4:30 p m.
WACA, 1590	8:40 a. m.
WABZ, Albemarle	8:45 a. m.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 a. m.
WEGO, 1410, Concord	8:45 a. m.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca	9:30 a. m.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell	10:00 a. m.
WGBR, Goldsboro	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville	8:30 a. m.
WISC, Statesville	8:45 a. m.
WENC, 1240, Whiteville	1:45 p. m.
WSHE, 570, Raleigh	9:00 a. m.
WSHE, 570, Raleigh	11:00 a. m.
WFNC, 1440, Fayetteville	9:30 a. m.

"TUESDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 a. m.

"THURSDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 a. m.
WWBD, Bamberg	11:45 a. m.

"SATURDAY"

WACA, 1590	5:00 p. m.
WMNC,	9:30 a. m.
WBCU,	8:45 p. m.

"MONDAY - FRIDAY"

WCGD, Chester	11:45 a. m.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell	11:00 a. m.

§ § § § § § §

We have no way of knowing if the radio & television listings herein are correct or if they are complete unless we hear from you.

§ § § § § § §

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Burl Curtis, Editor
B. Edward Davis, News Editor
Dabney Phillips, Bus. Manager

Publication Staff:
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Pat Pierce, Secretary

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C. W. Bradley, O. P. Baird, Noyles E. Sewell, James Woodroof, T. A. Isaacs

Address business correspondence and subscriptions to Carolina Messenger of Truth, 205 E. Main St., Easley, S. C. Address editorial matter to Burl Curtis, Box 5423, Sta. B, Greenville, S. C. Address all news to B. Edward Davis, 706 Adams St., Seneca, S. C.

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PLAZA

CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

WILL CONDUCT A SERIES OF

GOSPEL MEETINGS

April 10 - 17

SERVICE

7:45 P. M. EACH WEEK DAY

11:00 A. M. AND 6:30 P. M. SUNDAY

JAMES WOODROOF

W. COLUMBIA, S. C.

GUEST SPEAKER

Gospel Meeting

CHURCH OF CHRIST

MOORE, S. C.

April 19 - 27

SERVICES

7:45 P. M. EACH WEEK DAY

11:00 A. M. AND 7:45 P. M. SUNDAY

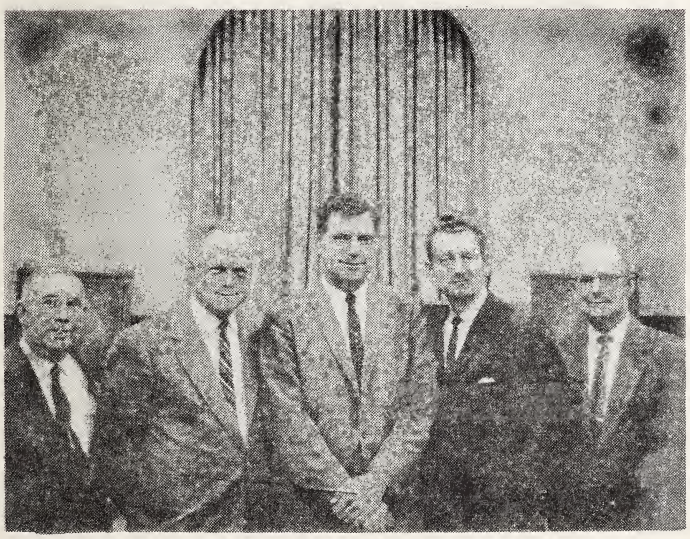
EVANGELIST

THOMAS BURTON

EVERYONE WELCOME

Singing April 24th at 3:00 P. M.

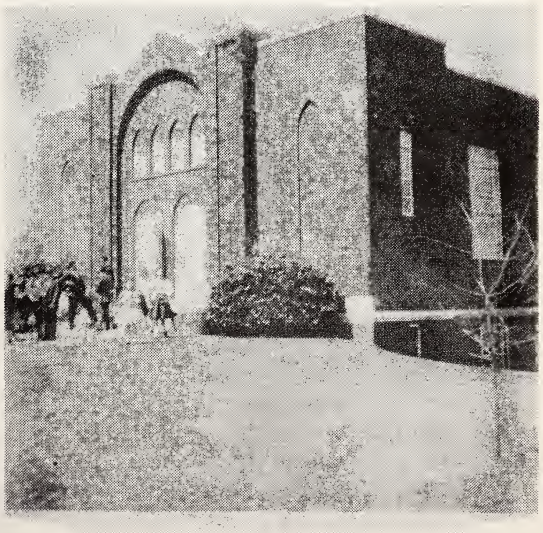
Carolina
Messenger of Truth



MAY
1960

SPECIAL
FEATURE

Carolina
Lectures



AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?

Sis. Minnie Cagle
Greenville, S. Carolina

"And the Lord said unto Cain, 'Where is Able, thy brother?' And he said, 'I know not. Am I my brother's keeper?'" Isn't that just like people today--when they sin they don't want to talk about it!

"And the Lord said, 'What hast thou done? The voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground!'" Are we our brother's keeper? The Lord told him he was cursed from the earth which had opened her mouth to receive his brother's blood from his hand. Cain said, "My punishment is greater than I can bear!" And Cain fled to the land of exile with the hand of God's wrath on him. We learn in Gen. 3:13, "And the Lord God said unto the woman, 'What is this that thou hast done?'" They had sinned, and they hid themselves from God. They were ashamed. We can not hide from God.

Am I my brother's keeper? Yes. We are our brother's keeper. We go to church on Lord's Day and we sing and pray and worship together, but on Monday and the rest of the week we don't know our brother any more than we know a stranger. If he is at worship next Lord's Day, well and good. If he is not, am I my brother's keeper? Yes, if he is sick, do something for him and if he is in need, help him. If he is in trouble, help him through. We are our brother's keeper. We are put to the test. John says we have passed from death into life if we love the brethren. This thought came to me when Bro. G. F. Gibbs was the preacher at Judson, where I obeyed the gospel. If we weren't at church on Sunday, he would be around to see about us. He was his brother's keeper. In John 1:41, Andrew finds his brother and brings him to Christ.

Some may say, "But I don't do my brother any harm--" Maybe not, but if we spend all our time in getting the weeds out of our own garden, we don't have any time to gather flowers for our brother. This may do him no harm, but let us check up and see if we are doing him any good! We are our brother's keeper.

BRO. JOHN AVANTS ACCEPTS ADVISORY CAPACITY.

Because of poor health, Bro. Avants has had to terminate his work as publisher of the paper. He continued longer than he was really able to because of his great desire to see the Messenger succeed. This expression has been used many times but I feel that it is most fitting here: "Words cannot express the debt of gratitude the Messenger owes to Bro. Avants and his family." He has agreed to continue in an advisory capacity.

PHILLIPS LEAVING CAROLINAS

At the last staff meeting in Spartanburg, S. C. Dabney Phillips announced his resignation as Business Manager of the Carolina Messenger of Truth. Bro. Phillips is leaving the Carolinas to work with the Gloster St. church in Tupelo, Miss. We express our sincere appreciation to him for his fine work for the paper. He will conclude his work for the Messenger with the Special Feature on the Blue Ridge Encampment which will appear in the June issue.

HAROLD SCOTT CHOSEN CIRCULATION MANAGER.

At the same meeting the paper staff selected Harold Scott, Statesville, N. C. to serve as the new Business or Circulation Manager. In his acceptance letter, he wrote: "I appreciate the opportunity of assisting in the job the Messenger is doing. With pleasure I accept the circulation work and I shall do all possible to fulfill the job. The future of the Messenger is increasing each year and the work it can do is great and I shall work toward that end."

Address all correspondence, except news, to Carolina Messenger of Truth, P. O. Box 5423, Sta. B, Greenville, S. C. News items should be sent to B. Edward Davis, 706 Adams St., Seneca, S. C.
Vol. II No. V
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S. MAIN ST. CHURCH

J. D. Parker
Winston-Salem, N. C.

Influence is a most potent tool in framing the building of the Lord in any community. Without the spirit of sacrifice, the willingness to give of one's service unstintedly, and the undaunted courage of gospel preachers and faithful brethren the Cause in this highly industrialized and prosperous Piedmont section of N. C. would be floundering on the coast of defeat. The group of Christians that assemble regularly at the S. Main building in Winston-Salem are indebted to many gospel preachers for their influence in this area, but of much more importance is the debt of gratitude to the Lord for providing the opportunities of sowing the seed of the kingdom. Uncle "Dick" Poindexter, G. W. Neely, W. L. Butler, Van Warner and M. C. Kurfees were some of the stalwarts who fought the great battle for the Lord in this area and cleared the ground for the now flourishing crop of churches in this section.

In the early part of the 1920's Bro. W. L. Reeves moved to N. C. and eventually settled in Winston-Salem where he was instrumental in bringing people to the Lord. Although only a small band of faithful servants, these brethren managed to obtain property on Goldfloss St. which served as a meeting place until 1948. W. W. Tynes and Cecil Derryberry served as local preachers before the present building was erected. Men within the congregation such as, John W. Kurfees, Sr., W. J. Forcum and others, occupied the pulpit when the congregation was unable to support a preacher full-time. Since 1951, Bob Crawley, Neil Lightfoot and the writer have labored with the church.

In appraising the progress of the work here at S. Main St. the turning point seems to have been simultaneous with the move into the new building in 1948. Anticipating the growth of the local congregation, the elders purchased a lot, approximately 170 feet square, in 1954 on the west side of the city with the view of establishing the work in that section. With the lot, several members of the S. Main congregation and Warners Chapel, about $5,000 and a great deal of faith the new congregation was formed the first Sunday of March 1957. This work, however, represents only a small phase of the work that has been done by this thriving church. For the past few years several thousand dollars have been sent to mission works in the Carolinas, other states and to France. The budget for 1960 is $25,266.80, of which $6,000.00 are mission dollars. This church has assumed the responsibility of the work in Nice, France and is contributing $100.00 each month toward the support of Hal Frazier who returned to France in Oct. of 1959.

Emphasis has been placed on teaching, both in the class-room and homes; Jule Miller filmstrips and others that are used in the classes along with a teacher training course have been highly beneficial to our educational program. Advertising through the newspaper and billboards, tract distribution and benevolent work are also strong factors in the progress of the work here. At the present we are confronted with a problem--a problem that every congregation welcomes. Our building is once again becoming crowded as evidenced by the 328 who assembled on April 10, the last day of our spring meeting with Ray Chester of Washington, D. C. We are grateful to God that He has smiled upon us in this greatest of all businesses, soul saving. If the church in Winston-Salem has become a citadel of strength in the Carolinas, it is because the Lord has enabled us to keep the right prospective of His word. With a Christ-centered program and a devoted membership the church cannot help but prosper and grow in numbers. May we ever magnify His name and covet His never-failing strength and power.

History of Lectures

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

With the end of World War II Christians across this nation had a new sense of their responsibility to preach the gospel to those who had never heard. While many definitely planned to go abroad, there were others who saw a real need in many neglected areas of America.

Two men, living in Middle Tennessee where the church was strong, looked Eastward into their neighboring states with a keen desire to see something done. Bro. J. W. Brents had made many trips into the Carolinas preaching and strengthening the little groups of Christians. Bro. A. R. Holton was convinced that the time was ripe to begin an all out effort to carry the gospel throughout the Carolinas.

In 1945 these two men planned a meeting in Waynesville, N. C. They knew that the congregations in the two states were very scattered. They also knew that the few preachers (not more than a half dozen) often became discouraged and needed fellowship with others. Thus they invited all the preachers to attend this meeting in Waynesville and to give reports on the work being done in their various areas. Before the week was over all were convinced that such a coming together was definitely worthwhile and plans were underway for a similar meeting the following year. Thus the Carolina Lectures were born.

Because of the small number of preachers and the weakened condition of the congregations, Brethren Brents and Holton continued to arrange and direct the lecture programs for three or four years. For several years, gospel meetings were held in conjunction with the lectureships. Well known and capable preachers from other sections of our country were invited to have part in the lectures. Bro. C. R. Nichol came for several years. Brethren G. A. Dunn, A. E. Emmons, C. E. McGaughey and many others came to help in the good work. In many cases the congregation that was being host to the lectures had just completed a new building. Thus the members found great joy in having all the visitors for the week.

In recent years the number of preachers in the Carolinas has increased so rapidly that it is almost impossible to use all of them on the lectures each year. Preachers who attend for their first time have been heard to say, "As long as I remain in the Carolinas, I never expect to miss another Carolina Lectureship. This week has been one of the most wonderful in my life."

Surely all who have had any knowledge of the Carolina Lectures will agree that they have played a definite part in the growth of the church. Preachers who came discouraged and ready to resign and go where the church is stronger, have left with a new sense of responsibility, a greater determination and a deeper love for preaching the gospel in the Carolinas. Congregations have been made stronger by the excellent lessons presented during the lectures. Many who have come from other states have gone home with a better understanding of the needs of the Carolinas and with a promise to themselves and to God that they would do something to help. All the churches and preachers in the Carolinas have been brought closer together and have come to better appreciate the tie that binds us.

The following congregations have been host to the Carolina Lectures:

Waynesville, N. C. - - - - - - - - - 1945
Winston-Salem, N. C. (South Main)- 1946
Columbia, S. C. (Shandon) - - - - - 1947
Charleston, S. C. (Sans Souci) - - - 1948
Spartanburg, S. C. (Central) - - - - 1949
Greensboro, N. C. - - - - - - - - - 1950
Statesville, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - 1951
Salisbury, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - 1952
Greenville, S. C. (Judson) - - - - - 1953
West Asheville, N. C. - - - - - - - 1954
Columbia, S. C. (Shandon) - - - - - 1955
Fayetteville, N. C. - - - - - - - - - 1956
Hickory, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - - 1957
Greenville, S. C. (Buncombe Rd.) - 1958
Charlotte, N. C. (Plaza) - - - - - - 1959

History of Lectures

O. P. Baird
Columbia, S. C.

Though I was not in the Carolinas at the beginning of the Carolina Lectures, it was my privilege to be present at the gospel meeting out of which grew the lectureships.

Brother M. W. Fodrie and I went from Atlanta to attend a tent meeting at Waynesville, N. C. which was conducted in an effort to establish a congregation in that beautiful resort town in the mountains near Asheville. I have not been able to find anything in my records to show the date of that meeting but I believe it was in 1945. Brother A. R. Holton and Brother J. W. Brents conducted that meeting. An effort was made to get as many preachers of the church as possible from the Carolinas to come and support that meeting. A few responded to the call. Indeed, there were only a few to respond.

During that meeting we assembled during the day and Bro. Holton and Brents spoke and those who were there from the congregations in the Carolinas gave reports of the work where they lived. Near the close of the meeting there was a gathering for the purpose of discussing making such a meeting an annual event. It was emphasized that such meetings would be entirely for the purpose of fellowship and teaching the word of God. Bro. Holton and Bro. Brents offered to arrange and such a lectureship if some congregation would invite the people for it.

Another annual event that is highly successful now began to be planned during the Waynesville meeting. That was the Blue Ridge Encampment. Bro. Fodrie and I rode over to the Blue Ridge Encampment grounds with Brother Holton and Brother Brents when they went over there to see what arrangements could be made for the encampment. The idea was to get people from many places to come to Blue Ridge in the hope that they would become aware of the opportunities in the Carolinas for mission work.

The next year the Carolina Lectures were conducted in Winston-Salem. A tobacco warehouse was rented for the purpose. That is the only time I ever attended a gospel meeting in a building so large we could just drive right into the building, get out of our cars and take our seats for the service and find plenty of room for cars and people. I have had people to walk out during a service many times, but one night at that meeting the speaker had to stop while a Model T got underway and chugged out of the meeting house. Bro. C. R. Nichol was the principal speaker at that lectureship and for several years after that.

In those early days of the Carolina Lectures when the workers in the Carolinas were few Brethren Holton, Brents and Nichol devoted much time and effort to this work and they are deserving of our deep gratitude for this work. They continued to plan and direct the lectures until the lectureship was held in Spartanburg in 1949. Bro. G. A. Dunn was the principal speaker at Spartanburg and for several years after that an outside speaker was invited to speak in the evening services and the preachers in the Carolinas preached and gave reports during the day. Since about the middle Fifties outside speakers have not been used. The number of preachers in the Carolinas now is so great that it is difficult to plan a program that will give all the preachers a chance to speak.

We rejoice for the growth of the Lord's work in the Carolinas. We may be sure that the annual Carolina Lectures have contributed to this growth.

This brief history has been written from memory without any aid from written records. The writer would be happy to have any corrections made by anyone with more accurate knowledge.

REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR SUB. !!!

ANNUAL CA

S. Main St. Building

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	
			THEME: Attitude To
10:00 A. M.		"Why the Bible" William Wilder Rocky Mount, N. C.	"Leg Ola Hig
10:45 A. M.		"The Bible, A Complete Rev." Paul Wilkinson Williston, S. C.	"Ro Bil Flo
11:30 A. M.		"Inspiration of Bible" Dabney Phillips Chester, S. C.	"T O. Col
			THEME: Building Up The
2:00 P. M.	"Through Godly Living" Harold Simmons Mocksville, N. C.	"Through Pulpit Preaching" Neal Roberts Columbia, S. C.	"Th San Cha
2:45 P. M.	"Through Visitation" Harold Scott Statesville, N. C.	"Through Benevolent Work" Wayman Love Asheville, N. C.	"Th Gai Ash
3:30 P. M.	OPEN FORUM "Stewardship" Virgil Hale, Wilson, N. C. Jack Byars, Kannapolis, N.C.	OPEN FORUM "Church Discipline" W. G. Gantt, Mocksville, N. C. Charles Crider	OP "Di Lut Jam
			THEME: Chri
7:30 P. M.	"Through Obedience" T. A. Isaacs Charlotte, N. C.	"Through His Death" Burl Curtis Greenville, S. C.	"Th Noy Wil
			PANEL DISCUSSI
8:30 P. M.	"Definition" O. P. Baird Columbia, S. C.	"Respons. Upon Parents" Chester Hunnicut Cherokee, N. C.	"Ne M. Ma
8:40 P. M.	"Need" Albert Gonce Greensboro, N. C.	"Respons. Upon Children" Ray Fullerton Goldsboro, N. C.	"Sh Noy Wil

COVER PICTURES: ELDERS AND PREACHER OF SOUTH MAIN STREET CONGREGATION, WI
SALEM, N. C. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: C. N. GRUBBS, POWELL DAY, J. D. PARKER, S
VOGLER AND W. J. FORCUM.

LECTURES

-Salem, North Carolina

SDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Bible (Morning Session)		
w of the Bible" . C.	"Impact of Science on Bible" Albert Gonce Greensboro, N. C.	"Liberalism" Frank Milton Albermarle, N. C.
hecy in Redemption" C.	"Prophecy-Spawning Ground for Isms"- G. F. Raines Valdese, N. C.	"Traditions" Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. Goldsboro, N. C.
" C.	"Methods to Interp. Bible" Robert Carrell Raleigh, N. C.	"Denominational View of Virgin Birth" -B. E. Davis Seneca, S. C.
arist (Afternoon Sessions)		
pel Meetings" C.	"The Elders' Work" Milton Parker Duncan, S. C.	"The Preacher's Work" Nelson Smith Kinston, N. C
al Aids" d C.	"The Deacons' Work" Joe Riggs Rockingham, N. C.	"The Work of Women" Chester Hunnicut Cherokee, N. C.
Remarriage" on, Allendale, S. C. uld, Union, S. C.	OPEN FORUM "Worldliness" James Frazier, Jac'ville, N. C. Billy Davidson, N. Charleston, S.C.	OPEN FORUM "Brotherhood Problems" Bill Smith, Greenville, S. C. Ernest Thigpen, " " "
(Evening Sessions)		
aching" ell . C.	"Through His Servants" Carl Lancaster Greenville, S. C.	"Through the Church" Johnny Sewell Georgetown, S. C.
aristian Home		
splaced Values" d	"Spiritual Activities" Darrel Beard Winston-Salem, N. C.	"Blessings to Parents" Nelson Smith Kinston, N. C.
Respons." . C.	"Work and Play Together" Olan Hicks High Point, N. C.	"Blessings to Children" James McDonald Union, S. C.

SOUTH MAIN STREET BUILDING, WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

News

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Oscar P. Craft, Reporting

March was a fair month as far as attendance was concerned. The average for Sunday school, morning worship, and evening worship were 85, 120, and 65 respectively.

The church will conduct a series of gospel meetings here, from June 27 through July 3, with Bro. Stanley Lockhart, of San Angelo, Texas preaching. Services will be at 7:30 each evening.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Bro. G. F. Raines has been working with the church here since the first of 1960. We are making plans for our gospel meeting here, beginning June 13th. Bro. A. T. Pate, of Nashville, Tennessee will preach. Bro. J. A. Davis and Bro. Bob Plunkett, former preachers at Valdese, will assist. Several families from Nashville are planning to be present to help with the effort. A Vacation Bible School is to be scheduled in connection with the meeting.

One cottage meeting is being conducted each week by the church here. Much interest is being seen among many who have never attended the services at the church building. The church at Lenoir is without a preacher still. Our "Dial-A-Devotion" is still being well received.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporting

The Red Oak congregation wishes to announce a singing school, June 12-18. Bro. Wayman Love, of Vance Street, in Asheville, will conduct the school, and preach after the singing lesson each night. All

ALEXANDER continued:

congregations are cordially invited to attend. The radio program from WMMH, Marshall, N. C. continues each Saturday, at 11:45 a. m., with Bro. Carl Hyder preaching.

We are glad that "Carolina Messenger" is continuing to send out the gospel and report the progress of the churches of Christ in the Carolinas.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. Evangelist

The church in Goldsboro has maintained the following averages in attendance in 1960: Bible study 96; Sunday morning worship, 104. A great many of these are children and young people.

Since our last report four have been baptized, and three have been restored. Several have moved in, and placed membership. The Air Force has sent away about 10 of our members and their children during major reconstruction at the Air Force Base here, and we anticipate a decline in our attendance through the summer, as a result. In July, Johnny Ramsey, of Meadowbrook Church, Fort Worth, will preach in our meeting, which will run concurrently with our first VBS. We are working to establish the work among the colored people here. This church will mark its third anniversary in August.

ANDERSON, S. C.
Barney Cargile, Evangelist

The new building here is near completion. Though not finished, the church began meeting there on April 17. We anticipate its completion by May 1. A gospel meeting will be held May 15 through 22 with Rudy Wyatt of Pharr, Texas as visiting speaker. The services will be each evening at 7:30. You are cordially invited to attend.

GEORGETOWN, S. C.
Johnny C. Sewell, Evangelist

The congregation here conducted a series of gospel meetings April 10-17, in which Bro. Bob Plunkett of Spartanburg did a remarkable job of preaching the truth. The attendance per service averaged approximately 70 with numerous visitors, not only from the neighboring congregations but also from the community. One was baptized during this meeting. We regard the meeting as being most successful.

Two were baptized in March and one in February here.

The prospects for continued growth seem better than ever.

SALISBURY, N. C.
David Bryan, Reporting

Preacher Wanted!! Our present evangelist, Paul Sikes, is leaving here the last of June. This congregation of 75 members is self-supporting, and owns a preacher's home. Attendance on Sunday morning runs about a hundred with contributions averaging about $130 per week. We are the only white congregation in this city of some 25,000, so the potential is great for growth. We are desirous of contacting a preacher to begin work here after July 1st. Please contact David Bryan, 212 Hillcrest Place, Salisbury, N. C.

GREENVILLE, S. C. (Judson)
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

During the past month, we have seen an increase in attendance at all services and in contribution. Last Lord's day, we had 156 for the morning worship. This is the largest number we have had for this service this year. Bro. Edward Davis, of Seneca, S. C. conducted an eight day meeting for us, which concluded last Sunday night. We all enjoyed it very much, and know that much good was accomplished. It was well attended by non-members from this area, by members here at Judson and the neighboring congregations. Bro. Davis did an excellent job of presenting the gospel and we feel sure much fruit will come forth as a result of our efforts. The church here covets the prayers of other Christians.

DUNCAN, S. C.
Milton S. Parker, Evangelist

Last Wednesday night our heart was made to rejoice when four young people confessed Christ and were baptized the same hour of the night.

STATESVILLE, N. C. (Broad St.)
Harold Scott, Evangelist

Our gospel meeting with Bro. William Jackson, of Florence, S. C. will be May 15 through 20 with services each evening at 7:30. On Sunday, May 15, the congregation will have a picnic lunch together and reassemble at the building at 3:00 o'clock for an hour of singing. All are invited to attend.

On Monday, May 16th, preachers and their wives are invited to meet for luncheon together.

Highlights of recent weeks are as follows: The teacher training series in which brethren from Salisbury, Jericho, Corinth, and Abilene congregations participated was felt to be most beneficial, and plans have been made to make it an annual work of the church. Average attendance at the course from this congregation was 26 per evening. High attendance for one evening was 38.

Wednesday evening attendance has improved greatly, due in part to the series of guest speakers

STATESVILLE continued:

from neighboring congregations. Averages this week were: Bible study, 147; Worship 212; Evening worship, 92; Wednesday night, 85. March averages were: Bible study 113; Morning worship, 155; evening worship, 86; Wednesday night 75.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton Elkins, Evangelist

We started working here full time March 15th. We have 11 members and the work is progressing. Plans are underway to begin construction on our building soon. A gospel meeting is planned sometime in August. About half of our preacher's support has been raised, and we hope and pray that the remainder will be obtained soon.

We covet your prayers for the work here.

CHESTER, S. C.
Dabney Phillips, Evangelist

One lady was baptized at Chester during our meeting with Newton Gribble preaching. Two ladies were baptized April 10 into Christ. Six have obeyed the gospel this year, and fourteen within the past 12 months. God continues to bless our mission work. The last of May will conclude my work in South Carolina. While working with the Shandon church in Columbia for 5½ years, 86 were baptized, and thus far 19 have been baptized into Christ here at Chester. In both places we were happy to have a part in the erection of new buildings. We shall always remember our years in this state and will always maintain an interest in the work. June 1, we will begin work with the Glouster Street church in Tupelo, Miss.

NOTE: See editorial on page two!

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
C. R. Scroggins, Reporting

On the 27th of March this congregation set a new record, with 43 persons present for the worship service.

We would like to express our appreciation to the preachers and congregations that have been, and are, assisting in the work here. We are thankful for this work and feel sure the Lord is also.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

We are at present engaged in an effort to establish a colored congregatio in this city. We are fortunate to have Bro. Quincy Carter of Statesville to preach. We recommend him to your service. We are also thankful for Brother Chester Vaughn, of Camden, S. C., and Bro. A. L. Cassius of Los Angeles, California, who were able to work with Bro. Carter during the first two weeks of the meeting. There have been no responses at this writing. Interest has steadily increased from night to night. Our own work was again strengthened this month by the addition of another family, making a total of six additions thus far in 1960. During May, we will be in a meeting at Williston, S.C. and Bro. T. Pierce Brown, of Manchester, Tennessee will be in a meeting here.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C.
Joe Riggs, Evangelist

The church here invites you to hear Bro. Norman Hogan of Friendship, Tennessee, in a series of gospel meetings, May 8th through 17th. Services daily at 7:30 pm, and Sunday services at 9:45 am, 10:45 am, and 7:00 pm.

Mail News Reports to News Editor!

TROY, N. C.
Fred Evans, Reporting

The church in Troy, N. C. urgently needs a full-time gospel preacher. Should any sound evangelist desire to move to Troy, with at least 12 months support, he would be considered. Please contact either J. C. Deaton, Box 233, Troy, N. C., or, Fred Evans Evangelist, Rome Church of Christ Carthage, Tennessee.

FLORENCE, S. C.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist

Though we've been plagued by sickness to a great extent, our Bible study and contribution averages are higher than 1959. We have received news of two families soon to be added to our number here. Harold L. Scott, of Statesville, will do the preaching in our spring meeting, May 29 - June 3. Services are each evening at 7:30.

NEW ELLENTON, S. C.
Herschel Davis, Evangelist

We began work with this church in February of this year. The work is alow and hard, for there has been no preacher here to work with the church. We are working door-to-door, and teaching with filmstrips in cottage meetings. Pray for the work here.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C.
James L. Frazier, Evangelist

We started working with this congregation eight months ago. Since that time there have been 73 responses including 12 restorations, and 9 baptisms. Attendance and contributions have increased recently. I am to speak in the Carolina Lectures May 5th. We now have 169 members, contributions average $142 per week.

WILLISTON, S. C.
Richard Williams, Evangelist

We have now outgrown our present place of worship, and need a better place to meet. We are now asking the brotherhood to assist us in building a new edifice. At present, the foundation and floor have been poured. To help in the program, send your contributions to Box 85, Route # 1, Windsor, S. Carolina.

CAMDEN, S. C.
C. C. Vaughn, Evangelist

Since our last report, one has been baptized. I have been preaching in the home of some non-members on Sunday evenings recently. Much interest has been shown. Our work here is moving along nicely. Bro. Talmadge Anderson is now directing our young people's group.

AIKEN, S. C.
C. C. Vaughn, Reporting

There will be a gospel meeting beginning May 22 in Aiken, S. C., with Bro. C. C. Vaughn preaching. We are asking for contributions from all interested in this work. The colored church in Williston will erect the tent. Much good is anticipated. Please send all contributions to Richard Williams 1201 Twigg St., Augusta, Georgia.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (Plaza)
Wm. McEnerney, Reporting

Bro. Jim Woodroof, of West Columbia, S. C. concluded a wonderful meeting here recently. Seven were baptized, four were restored and three were identified. Total attendance for eight days - 2071. This meeting has been an inspiration to the Plaza church. All ingredients for a spiritual revival are present. Our Dial-A-Devotion continues to be well received.

You are cordially invited to attend

a series of

Gospel Meetings

at the

Northeast

CHURCH of CHRIST

GREENACRE ROAD
(near Pleasantburg Shopping Center)

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAY 16-24

SERVICES NIGHTLY AT 7:45 P. M.

GUEST SPEAKER



Johnny Sewell

GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA

COME, BRING A FRIEND

Carolina MESSENGER OF TRUTH



June 1960

WALKING WITH GOD

Minnie Cagle
Greenville, S. C.



"Enoch walked with God and was not for God took him." Enoch lived three hundred and sixty-five years and he walked with God. If we walk with God, we must please him. In Genesis 6:9 the statement is made that Noah, a preacher of righteousness before the flood, was a just man and walked with God. If Peter had walked with God, he would not have followed his Lord afar off. Hezekiah said he had walked before God in truth and with a perfect heart. (Isa. 38:3). These things God requires of us--to keep his commandments, to do justice, to love and show mercy and to walk humbly before him. David asked, "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart." (Psalms 15:1-2).

We are not to walk after flesh but after the Spirit. We want to be close to God all the time. When we are sick and in pain we want to be close. Yes, close to his side. Jesus said to be not afraid, it is I. When dark clouds gather around us, if we are walking with God, if we are close to him, we won't have anything to fear.

He is the captain of our souls!
He is not afraid!
Walk with Him!!!

Notice: Less than two weeks after writing the article above, Sister Cagle passed on to meet her Maker. Truly, she was one of God's most faithful children.

EDITORIAL - THE NEXT STEP

The first step has been taken by many of the congregations in the Carolinas. After many years of hard work and sacrifice, they are now self-supporting. They have been blessed with a suitable church building and perhaps a preacher's house. One full-time worker is fully supported by the congregation and a will planned program of work is being carried out.

Nearly all the now self-supporting congregations have received some "outside" help. They were most thankful at the time they were receiving that help. Now they have a comfortable membership of 120 or above.

When will these congregations take the next step? We are thinking about the step of putting another full-time worker in the field.

We are acquainted with several congregations with a membership of 60 to 80 who are completely self-supporting. Without "outside" help they are paying for the building they own and keeping one man full time in the work. But where is the congregation with 120-160 members which is fully supporting two men plus the cost of two meeting houses?

Why cannot the second 60 or 80 do what the first had to do? Do we become ungrateful for the help previously received? Maybe there are congregations in the Carolinas with a membership of 120-160 who are doing what the smaller ones have to do. If so, we would rejoice to hear of it.

Will the congregations in the Carolinas be prepared to give as they have been given to? The Lord willing we will grow. Are we going to be prepared to meet the challenge of growth? Some Carolina preachers and members have criticized churches in other areas for not supporting this mission field. Will the same criticism be leveled at churches in these two states in the future? We certainly hope that as the congregations are able they will send preachers where the church is not established. Will we take the next step?

BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT



A PART OF THE ATTENDANCE AT BLUE RIDGE

EYES OF AMERICA ARE ON BLUE RIDGE

J. M. Powell

Hundreds of Christians from the States and the Dominion of Canada look forward with eagerness to the annual Blue Ridge Encampment, at Black Mountain, N. C.

This encampment which was conceived by brethren A. R. Holton and J. W. Brents will be conducted this year from June 20 through the 24th.

The purpose of the encampment is to focus attention of the brotherhood on the gospel needs of the Carolinas. Elders and other interested brethren see these needs, return to their homes throughout the land and interest their home congregations to supply the needs of various mission points. As a result of these encampments, the cause of Christ in the two Carolinas is experiencing a phenomenal growth. There is little or no religious prejudice in these two states. The Catholic church is scarcely known. Most of the preachers in the area are young and well-educated. Nearly all of them are college graduates; many of them have done considerable graduate work.

Top men and women appear on the Blue Ridge program each year. The people who attend go back to their home congregations with new ideas and a feeling that they can turn the world upside down.

The setting of the encampment is one of the most picturesque in the world. The scenery from the broad veranda of Lee Hall is breathtaking. It would require the eloquence of a William Jennings Bryan, an N. B. Hardeman or a T. B. Larimore to describe its beauty.

Even in mid-summer a blanket is needed at night. A log fire in a huge fireplace burns constantly. The Christian fellowship is incomparable.

In the last two or three years, Ira North has directed the encampment with his usual skill and with great success. You can rest assured that there is never a dull moment. For reservations write Miss Era Emmons, 1726 Hillmont Drive, Nashville 12, Tennessee. The cost is reasonable, the rooms are comfortable and the food is wholesome.

COVER PHOTO; An artist sketch of the new building at Goldsboro, N. C.

Thanks to Dabney Phillips for compiling the special section on the Blue Ridge Encampment and to C. W. Bradley for the section on the Carolina Lectures.

What Blue Ridge Has Meant

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

In only a few years the enrollment of the Blue Ridge Encampment has grown from fifty to five hundred. Congregations from throughout this nation are represented. Thoroughly enjoying a wonderful week of vacation are people from all walks of life. Leaders in the various activities of the Lord's work are present. There are elders, deacons, preachers, Bible school teachers, and song leaders. There are teen-agers and children. Do they have a good time? They must because year after year they return and bring others with them.

Has the Blue Ridge Encampment exerted any influence for good in the Carolinas? Very definitely "Yes". In what way? I will give only a few of the many answers.

1. Each year approximately a dozen preachers who labor in the Carolinas have been featured on the program. They are invited to tell these Christians from strong congregations about our growth, problems and needs. The result is that the work of the church in the Carolinas has become much better publicized in recent years. Congregations desiring to assist in mission fields have become aware of the outstanding opportunities in the Carolinas and many are now supporting preachers in these two states.

2. One of the great needs in the Carolinas is more preachers. Several congregations are now in need of full time workers. At the Blue Ridge Encampment we have an opportunity to make this need known. I know of preachers who have been contacted in this way.

3. Discouragement is a real problem with most preachers in any field where the church is small and the work is slow and hard. Fifteen years ago when I first entered the Carolinas, I was 75 miles from the next nearest congregation. There were only a dozen members where I preached. Discouragement and loneliness gnawed at my heart. How I longed to be associated with other Christians! An hour's visit with another preacher meant so much. I have heard William Wilder of Rocky Mount, N. C. express this same feeling. Recently, he said that Blue Ridge Encampment means so much to him from this standpoint that he plans to attend every year as long as he remains in the Carolinas. All who go are surely uplifted, strengthened and encouraged.

4. While it is true that only a small percentage of Christians in the Carolinas have learned to take advantage of Blue Ridge Encampment, some have discovered what a wonderful week it can be. I know some families who go year after year. Evidently they think it worthwhile. I know others who go for at least one day and enjoy the fine fellowship.

Let me encourage others to consider attending Blue Ridge Encampment. Where else can you receive so much for such a small investment? The total cost for your entire family to go and remain all the week would not esceed what you would expect to pay for a week at the beach or to take a trip across the country.

At Blue Ridge Encampment you can enjoy a wonderful vacation in the midst of the most beautiful surroundings in America. In addition, you can have a week of "never to be forgotten" experiences as you meet and learn Christians from almost every state in our nation. You can receive strength and real joy by participating in the classes, devotional periods, singing sessions, afternoon chatting periods and many other activities. GO TO BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT.

We need your active friendship. If you believe the Carolina Messenger of Truth is capable of doing good, help increase its effectiveness by obtaining subscriptions in your community. You will be doing your friend a service.

What It Means to be a Christian

Bill Wilder
Rocky Mount, N. C.

Various answers have been ascribed as to what does it mean to be a Christian. For instance, Dr. Brightman said, "A Christian is one who gives emphasis to the things which Jesus taught." Surely we must concede that this is true, but it means far more than this. One must not only emphasize the things Jesus taught, but also comply with His commands. Amiel once said, "To me religion is life before God and in God." Ruskin stated that "he who offers God a second place, offers him no place." Actually, when one consults the Bible carefully, he notes that Christianity is the highest perfection of humanity. To be a Christian is like riding a bicycle, you either get off or keep going. The word Christian is found in the Bible only three times. (Acts 11:26; 26:28; I Pet. 4:16).

In regard to faith a Christian is a believer. The Apostle Paul said in II Tim. 1:12, "...for I know whom I have believed ..." Note: Paul did not say what I believe, but whom. Paul's faith was in Christ, which enabled him to be the great missionary he was. Joseph's faith enabled him to become governor of Egypt; the three Hebrew children's faith sustained them that a hair was not singed; and Daniel's faith kept him from harm in the lion's den. We, too, as Christians, must put our faith in Christ. For a Christian is one who believes, trusts, in the promises of God. When we walk with faith in our hearts we will never walk alone.

Secondly, with reference to knowledge a Christian is a disciple. "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." (Jno. 8:31, 32). A disciple is one who follows, observes and learns. Christians are disciples of Christ; they follow Him, observe His teachings and learns of His way. In Old Testament times the Jews were led into captivity and even destroyed for lack of knowledge. (Isa. 5:13; Hosea 4:6). Many in this day and time also will be like the Jews of old, destroyed for a failure to acquaint themselves with the Word of God. Paul admonished Timothy to study. (II Tim. 2:15). Again, Paul said, "Till I come give attendance to reading, exhortation and doctrine." (I Tim. 4: 13). Learning of God's will is indispensable because the only way one can be saved and keep saved is through a knowledge of the Word. (Jno. 6:44, 45). If we have not already, we need to cultivate a desire for the spiritual food that is able to build us up and make us grow thereby.

Again, in regard to character a Christian is a saint. Christians at Corinth were called saints. (I Cor. 1:2). They were sanctified, (not living above sin as some would have us think) set apart from the world. When a person makes that noble decision and takes those precious steps to become a Christian, upon rising from the watery grave of baptism, he has severed himself from the world of sin--he is now a saint. He has dedicated his life to usefulness and righteousness; living a life that adorns the gospel of Jesus Christ. Too many of us have forgotten that we were purged from our old sins; we have left our first love. Why not heed the admonition of the Lord when he said, "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate.." "And have not fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." (Eph. 5:11).

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Gratitude

Carlton W. Elkins
Bryson City, N. C.

It has been said, "A grateful thought toward heaven is of itself a prayer. Gratitude is not only the memory, but the homage of the heart rendered to God for His goodness." The miralce in Lk. 17 reminds us of the compassion of God. It is also a lesson concerning man's response to the graciousness of God. Only one expressed appreciation. (Lk. 17:11-19).

We see gratitude and ingratitude. One turned back and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face and gave thanks. Jesus asks the question, "Were there not ten?" Only this stranger returned to give thanks to God. Don't we so many times take God for granted? We receive blessing after blessing and never think to give thanks to God for them. What makes one individual grateful and another ungrateful? The spirit of gratitude begins in seeing ourselves as recipients of the gifts of the eternal. Many people say or show by their actions that the world owes me a living since I did not ask to be born into it. When we come to the place that we expect God to answer our petitions according to our wishes, because we have obeyed Christ, then we have lost sight of what it means to be a child of God.

In Lk. 17 the other nine didn't show their gratitude because they, no doubt, had the attitude that here is the Christ, the one who can heal me. Why shouldn't I take advantage of his power? Why shouldn't I share in a good thing? And after they were healed they had the feeling that this was due them being a creature of God. Many think today that the world owes them a living and that we have earned everything we have. The so-called self made man believes that he is the master of his fate, captain of his soul. We really haven't earned anything in this world. In contrast, the grateful heart senses that all he is, has, knows or can do are due to the goodness, power and love of God. This is best expressed by Paul when he said, "By the Grace of God I am what I am." (I Cor. 15:10). There are those who have the attitude that I can do what I please. I can disobey God. I can ignore Him. I can lead an immoral life. I can wait until that last moment, then say a few words and beg for mercy. Since God is a God of mercy He will hear and forgive me. Oh yes, I know what God commands, but why should I worry about them? He will take care of me. Why should I worry about obeying the Gospel, repenting or giving up the things I want to do. Why should I worry about confessing before men or being baptized?

What about this death bed religion? Will God allow one to go on and on disobeying, with the assurance of being saved at the last moment? God is very plain on this. In Proverbs 1:24, "Because I have called, and ye refused, I have stretched out my hand and no man regarded, but ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof; I also WILL LAUGH AT YOUR CALAMITY; I WILL MOCK when your fear cometh; when your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I WILL NOT ANSWER; they shall seek me early, BUT THEY SHALL NOT FIND ME; for they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord." (Prov. 1:24-29).

We need not only to be aware that we are receivers of God's grace, but we need also to show appreciation for the gifts received. How can we express our thankfulness, appreciation and gratitude? By obeying God, and by the good use of natural gifts-time, talent, energy. The ultimate demonstration of gratitude for the wonderful gift of salvation is faithful service. We show our gratitude by giving thanks to God as Paul instructed Timothy: "For every creature of God is good and nothing to be refused if it be received with THANKS-

 (see page 7)

The Sin of Putting Off

Bill G. Smith
Greenville, S. C.



We are all acquainted with the statement: "Don't put off 'til tomorrow what you can do today." The practice of putting things off is a sin that is committed by all. The quotation above is an intelligent statement for the following reasons:

1. The Bible tells us to live one day at a time. Matt. 6:25, "...be not anxious for your life..." James 4:14,15, "whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. What is your life? For ye are a vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, if the Lord will, we shall both live and do this or that."

2. God's word teaches us to do a good days work. Eph. 6:7, "with good will doing service, as unto the Lord, and not unto men." It does not matter whom we are working for we are to work for that person as though we were working for the Lord.

To be able to understand the consequence of this sin we need only to ask Felix in Acts 24:25 or Agrippa in Acts 26:28. As far as the record is concerned, these men never conquered the sin of putting off. Have you???

Life is too short - death is too soon - judgement is too sure - eternity too long for us to waste our time in this life. When we try to contemplate eternity we are made to stand with awe at the vastness of such a subject. In speaking on the length of eternity one man said, "If the earth were made of solid steel and a small sparrow flew by one time each year and brushed wing tip against the earth, by the time he completely removed the earth, eternity would just be starting."

We shudder when we think of the awfulness of an eternity in torment and of the large number of souls who are not prepared. Won't you listen to God's word and prepare now. Paul said in Rom. 10:17 that you must hear the Gospel which will produce faith. You must believe, Jno. 8:24, must repent, Lk. 13:5, must confess the name of Jesus, Rom. 10:10, must be baptized, Mk. 16:16, Acts 2:38, I Pet. 3:21, must live a faithful Christian life, Rev. 2:10. Won't you accept the Love of God and obey the Gospel NOW?

GRATITUDE (cont'd from page 6)

GIVING. (I Tim. 4:4).

Are we grateful or are we like the nine who were healed? Do you have the attitude that God owes you salvation, that you don't have to meet the conditions of salvation? Show your gratitude to God by simple obedience to his commands, by respecting his authority and believe, repent confess before men and be buried in baptism, and then live the faithful life until death.

PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN YOU MOVE so that you will not miss an issue of the paper. If you know of anyone who is not receiving it, please let us know. Mail your communication to P. O. Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C.

NEW DIRECTORY

Would you be interested in a new directory of churches of Christ in the Carolinas? The '59 copy is very much out of date. The new one would sell for $1.00 each and would have a heavier cover and would contain all the vital information. If you would like one, please let us know so that we can guage the interest.

TEEN TOPICS --"OPEN LETTER TO TEENAGERS"

James S. Woodroof
West Columbia, S. C.

The signs of our times are indeed distressing. The tendencies which we reluctantly admit to be in ourselves and readily see in others are tendencies which, if allowed to have sway, would lead society into a life of ease, complacency and irresponsibility. If these affected only the adults the end would be bad enough, but the consequences do not stop there but affect our young people.

One tendency that leads to a degraded level of existence is the desire of most adults to be free from the responsibilities of parenthood. Just as a nation is in dire circumstances when the majority of its citizens desire to be free from the responsibilities of citizenship, so is a nation when the majority of parents refuse to accept the responsibilities of parenthood.

The morals standards of any people are rooted in the home. Juvenile delinquincy is running unchecked in America and will run unchecked until the cause is eliminated. Legislate all you like, but until the parents accept their responsibilities, delinquincy will never be checked.

Below is an article by Mr. Oliver Brewer of the Levelland (Texas) Daily Sun News. PARENTS and TEENAGERS, read it carefully!!

An Open Letter To Parents

Judge Philip B. Gilliam of Denver, in an "Open Letter To a Teenager" wrote: "Always we hear the plaintive cry of the teenager: What can we do?. .Where can we go? The answer is GO HOME.

"Hang the storm windows, paint the woodwork, rake the leaves, mow the lawn, shovel the walk, wash the car, learn to cook, scrub some floors. Repair the sink, build a boat, get a job.

"Help the minister, visit the sick, assist the poor, study your lessons. And then when you are through -- and not too tired -- read a book.

"Your parents do not owe you entertainment. Your city or village does not owe you a living. You owe the world something. You owe it your time and energy and your talents so that no one will be at war or in poverty or sick or lonely again.

"In plain simple words: GROW UP; quit being a cry-baby. Get out of your dream world and develop a backbone, not a wish-bone, and start acting like a man or a lady."

Parents have "nursed, protected, helped, begged, excused, tolerated and denied themselves" for their children. What more can they do? They can start using their heads instead of their hearts where their children are concerned, and by doing it they can demonstrate a greater love than lavish gifts or extra freedoms can show. They can return the home to its central place of importance in the American way of life, Before they can cry out, "Go home, teenager", there mus t be a real home for him to go to.

Delinquint children? This charge has frequently been levelled at the parents and justly so. They have promoted, rather than discouraged, the unholy alliance among children who take a milé, inch by inch, with the tormented cry, "Everybody else is doing it." They have left instruction about God to the Sunday School; instruction in the basic tools of learning to the school teacher; and in the knowledge of personal matters of life and love to the filthy scribblings on the restroom walls and the commercial pornography of a sick publishing industry. There have been great contributors of money but where parents have fallen short is in giving of themselves. How many have taken a personal interest in the work and play of their children? How many have taught their children to be God-fearing, have gone with them to Sunday School, have knelt with them to pray, have taught them consideration for others?

 (see page 14)

NEWS

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warner's Chapel
Darrell E. Beard, Evangelist

The last Men's Training Class was held May 17, with good interest on the part of those who attended. I have resigned from the work here, after three years of pleasant association, to move to Aberdeen, N. C., July 31.

I have a few copies of the Carolina Lectureship outlines, which you may obtain by sending name and address and 75¢. This volume contains 24 of the lecture outlines and 14 sermon outlines. Page 65 is missing, for which we apologize.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street
Harold Scott, Evangelist

As we write this, our meeting is half over. Two have responded to the invitation of Christ. It has been a wonderful week in many ways. Attendance has been excellent at all of the services with 200 persons present for 3 of them. Bro. Jackson, of Florence, S. C., has presented the gospel with forceful simplicity. There had been more visitors by the second night of this meeting than were present for all of our last meeting.

Last Sunday afternoon 18 congregations were represented by 172 people, gathered to sing and worship God for an hour.

One was restored to duty during the last week of April. Our visitation program met with good response that week also.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

A fine gospel meeting came to a close here May 17. C. W. Bradley did the preaching. He presented the gospel in a most remarkable way. Several visitors were present. One obeyed the gospel. The church was greatly strengthened and encouraged. It is impossible now to estimate the good that will result from this effort.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
The Plaza
Wm. McEnerney, Reporting

The church here sent Bro. Isaacs to Menlo, Georgia for the week of May 8th, to hold a meeting for that small group of sixteen souls. Menlo is between Chattanooga, Tennessee and Rome, Georgia. The group is small but improvements have been made to the building, and Bro. Laird is planning to work with them permanently.

The Plaza is also sending a speaker to Shelby, N. C. once a month to help in the newly revived work there at 1009 Roosevelt Street.

There have been 20 responses to the invitation here, since April. Four were restored and one baptized last Sunday. Truly God is really blessing our efforts and we are grateful to Him. The building is being air-conditioned this week, for the comfort of those who attend.

Brother Bob Herndon is at Sandford, N. C. and asks for our prayers, and the interest of all Christians in this area.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

SEND YOUR REPORTS IN BY THE 20th

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Carlis Scroggins, Evangelist

Our attendance is still averaging about 30 persons for the worship service.

We had two persons to confess wrongs and ask to be restored to the fellowship of the saints, since our last report.

CHESTER, S. C.
Dabney Phillips, Reporting

Bro. Tom Bolick of Nashville, Tennessee, and a native of Hickory, N. C., will begin work in Chester the second Sunday in the month of June. O. P. Baird will preach in the fall meeting here. After June 1st, my new address will be: 701 Magnolia Street, Tupelo, Mississippi. I shall be pleased to hear from friends in the Carolinas.

SENECA, S. C.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

Bro. Ernest Thigpen, from the Judson church in Greenville, did an excellent job in presenting the gospel during our recent series of meetings. One was restored.

On Sunday, May 22, four more confessed wrong. During the first four weeks of May, our offerings have averaged $ 89 per week, with the highest on the 15th -- $ 102.65. Attendance is hovering just below 50 per week. The class in Clemson continues to be well attended. Our big problem is a scattered membership. People attend here from Easley, S. C., to Toccoa, Georgia. This is a big handicap in trying to arrange our work. We will conduct a "Teachers' Training School," at the Northeast

SENECA continued:

church's building, in Greenville during the month of June, for all four churches in that city. This promises to be a highly enjoyable work, and we look forward to it with eagerness.

WILSON, N. C.
Jesse R. Melton, Reporting

The church here will conduct a series of gospel meetings, beginning June 6 and continuing through June 18. Services will be conducted in the National Guard Armory each evening at 8 P. M. The address is 405 East Gold Street, in Wilson. I will speak the first week, and Brother Virgil Hale will speak the last. On Monday, June 6, there is to be a preachers' luncheon, to which all preachers are invited.

SHELBY, N. C.
Adapted from Gastonia Bulletin

Seventeen persons were present for the first meeting of the newly re-organized church in Shelby, N. C. The church here was discontinued several months ago after several families moved away. The two families remaining began worshipping in Gastonia, about 20 miles away. When a new textile plant was opened, several members of the church moved into the area, and others may come soon. Prospects seem good now, for a growing congregation. Bro. Thornton Reagor, from Gastonia, Bro. J. W. DeYoung, from Duncan, and others have spoken here recently.

Note: Anyone having correct address of this group, please inform us at once. News Editor

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

On June 13-24, a "CRUSADE FOR CHRIST" is to be held in Valdese in a tent located in a residential section of the city. Brother A. T. Pate of Nashville, will be the visiting speaker. He is to be assisted by Bro. James A. Davis, of Hendersonville, and Bro. Bob Plunkett, of Spartanburg, both former ministers of this congregations.

The singing will be conducted by Bro. Jimmy Lonius, who is now attending David Lipscomb College in Nashville. Brother Lonius is the regular song leader for the Bordeaux church in Nashville. He will be assisted by another song leader, also from Nashville.

A Vacation Bible School is to be conducted at the meetinghouse in Valdese during the first week of the meeting.

Contributions totaling over $ 500. have been sent to support this work. Advertising and the material for the VBS are being furnished by the brethren in the city of Nashville. 6000 tracts are to be distributed in a thorough canvass of the town. Radio programs will be broadcast while the meeting is in progress, with different speakers participating in this broadcast. About twenty five people from Nashville are planning to visit with us during this crusade, and assist in the personal work. Every form of advertising is to be employed. All Carolina congregations are urged to attend this meeting, at every opportunity. Services are to be at 8:00 each evening, so that those who live a great distance away will have time to get here. Let us pray that God will bless and guide our efforts, so that many will be saved.

CAMDEN, S. C.
C. C. Vaughn, Evangelist

Our first meeting of the year has just been concluded. Eighteen people have responded for baptism, for which we thank the Lord. Our next meeting is planned for the last two weeks in June. Please pray for us.

Due to a change in plans, the meeting in Aiken, S. C. has been postponed. An announcement will be made later regarding the date for this work. All contributions for this work should be addressed to the Rouse Brothers, Route One, Box 85, Windsor, S. C.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Oscar P. Craft, Reporting

The work here is still progressing for which we are thankful. Since our last report, one has been baptized.

Brother Bob Petree, who moved to Fayetteville from High Point some three months ago, has accepted the invitation to work with the church here part time.

Our gospel meeting will be held June 27 through July 3 with Bro. Stanley Lockhart as speaker.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist

In our meeting in April with Yarbrough Leigh, of Tallahassee, Florida, four were baptized, and an attendance record of 162 was set on the first Sunday of the meeting. New carpeting has been installed in our building.

ADVERTISE YOUR MEETINGS!

Space may be purchased on the back page of the "Messenger" for announcing gospel meetings. Buy a whole page or one-half. Write for prices.

SALISBURY, N. C.
Paul Sikes, Evangelist

The church here will be engaged in a series of meetings June 14-23, with Bro. Raymond H. Crumbliss of Tuscumbia, Alabama, preaching every evening at 7:30.

After having spent five years with the church in Salisbury, I would like to say that I have found the work to be pleasant and inspiring. Truly, I believe that the church in Salisbury is pushing forward.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C.
W. G. Gantt, Evangelist

In April we began our second year with the church here. During this time we have witnessed some progress. Eleven souls have been added to the Lord's family, and four returned to the Lord. The attendance is very good, especially the mid-week Bible study. We usually have 70 to 90, with 86 for last mid-week service. The collections for 1959 averaged $ 204.48 per Sunday.

Material progress has also been made. The church has erected, and we are now living in, a beautiful new home just behind the church building.

The church is sending $ 10.00 per month to the work in Lancaster, S. C., and has agreed to send at least $ 25.00 to Lexington.

We are looking forward to a great meeting in June, with Bro. James Woodroof speaking. Services will be at 8:00 P. M., June 13-19. Bro. Woodroof will also conduct a singing period each evening before the worship. The church has also planned a singing at 3:00 P. M. on Sunday, the 19th of June. Be with us.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
Vance Street
Wayman Love, Evangelist

One was baptized at Vance St. on May 1st. Our membership now numbers 83. I am to conduct a singing school and preach in a meeting with the Red Oak congregation, north of Weaverville, from June 12-18. The Blue Ridge Encampment is from June 20-24. I will direct tours on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We hope to see many from the Carolinas at Blue Ridge this year.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Buncombe Road
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

We lost two families who moved out of the state this month. Our present membership is 80.

Since April 1st, our average weekly contribution has been $ 170.00

"OPPORTUNITY PARAGRAPH"

A few issues ago, we asked to be informed regarding the congregations near each of you that are looking for an evangelist to work with them. Very few of you have responded thus far. Those listed below are given from our memory. We do not doubt that it is incomplete, but we cannot include names of congregations of whom we do not know! Please cooperate with us in this matter!! Send churches, as well as names of preachers who wish to locate in this area.

Churches Without Ministers:

Buncombe Road, Greenville, S. C.
Valdese, North Carolina
Abilene, Statesville, N. C.
Pike Road, North Carolina
Salisbury, North Carolina

---News Editor---

RESULTS OF WILMINGTON MEETING



Reported by Noyles E. Sewell
Evangelist, Wilmington Church

The Wilmington church of the Lord sponsored a gospel meeting during the entire month of April in the hope of establishing a colored congregation. Quincy C. Carter of Statesville, N. C. delivered a series of plain and powerful sermons, and Chester C. Vaughn, of Camden, S. C. directed the singing during the first two weeks. Others who contributed time to the meeting were A. L. Cassius of Los Angeles, California, A. J. Lyons, local minister of the Jacksonville, N. C. colored congregation, and Noyles E. Sewell, minister of the white church in Wilmington. Although there were no responses during the meeting, there was considerable interest, and all were in agreement that another effort should be made next year. Bro. Carter related the history of the colored church in Oklahoma City. A meeting was first held several years ago by Marshall Keeble, one of our best known colored preachers. During this meeting there were no responses, so another meeting was conducted the next year with R. N. Hogan

WILMINGTON MEETING continued:

preaching. Again, there were no responses, but another meeting was planned the third year. After three weeks of preaching under a tent, Bro. Hogan was unable to baptize a single person, and was ready to admit defeat. The elders of the church sponsoring the meeting insisted however that Hogan complete the entire meeting so it continued into the fourth week. During this fourth week, people began responding to the invitation, and when the meeting finally closed, a total of 180 (yes, 180) had been baptized. This should put to shame those who have a defeatist attitude, and emphasizes the need for perseverance.

The work during the meeting here this year laid groundwork for another meeting next year.

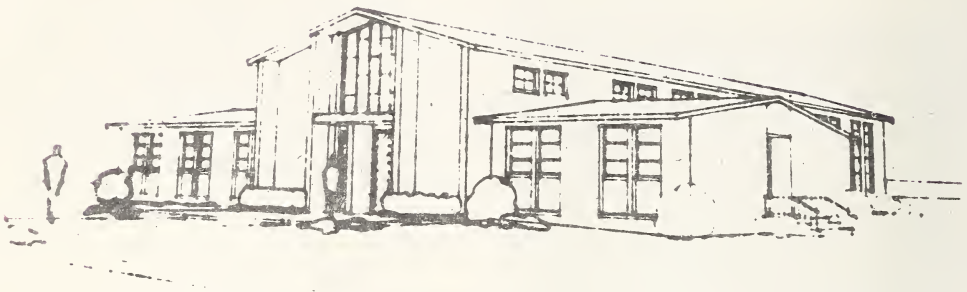
The Wilmington church was assisted in financing this meeting by A. M. Burton, the Comer fund, the Waverly-Belmont congregation in Nashville, and the Statsville church, in North Carolina.

In the picture above, names are, reading from left to right: C. C.. Vaughn, Camden, S. C., Quincy C. Carter, Statesville, N. C., A. L. Cassius, Los Angeles, California, N. E. Sewell, Wilmington, N. C.

ATTENTION -- SANFORD RESIDENTS!!

Bro. Bob Herndon, formerly of Raleigh, has just moved to Sanford, N. C. to help establish a church in that city. He would like to hear from those in that area who are members of the body of Christ, and are interested in this project. Contact him at: 905 Garden Street, Sanford, N.C. Let him hear from you at once!

NEWS DEADLINE - 20th EACH MONTH!



CHURCH BUILDING, KINSTON, N. C.

On May 15th, the church of Christ in Kinston, North Carolina had its formal opening for its new building. Bro. Clyde Hale, of Nashville, Tennessee was guest speaker. The building is located on Hardee Road and Sunset Avenue just three blocks north of Hwy. 70. Nelson Smith is presently working with this congregation.

TEEN TOPICS continued:

You haven't done these things? Then maybe you as a parent ought to make a covenant with yourself and your child today. Tell him, first, that you will make him a home and that you'll be a decent parent who will walk the distance with him. Open your house to him and his friends. Do not relinquish the shaping of his life to people who have standards of conduct, religious beliefs, ideals, and goals in life that are lower than your own. Be completely responsible for his life and hold him responsible to you for it. Then you will be in a position to say, "Come home, Son. Stay home."

When he does, then make sure that you give him more than you have ever given him before - not of the material things nor of free time, but of love, of your time, of your personal guidance. Maybe gradually at first, but

TEEN TOPICS continued:

give him greater responsibility than he's ever had before. Turn off the TV or put down the magazine and see that he meets it. Praise him more, appreciate the smallest success, encourage him in the face of failure and disappointments. Share with him more of your thoughts and aspirations, and tell him why living life your way is the best way.

In short, Parents, GROW UP!! You may have to do it, too, you know, to command the respect of your son or daughter. It may be a new way of life, but you will be better for it, and so will your child.

CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE!

By your name and address each month you will find a number designating the month and year for the expiration of your subscription. Renew NOW.

RADIO AND TELEVISION GUIDE

"SUNDAY"

Herald of Truth:

WCOS, Columbia, S. C.	7:30 p. m.
WHAN, Charleston, S. C.	2:30 p. m.
WBTW, Chl. 8, Florence	11:30 p. m.
WUSN, Chl. 2, Charleston	12:30 p. m.
WGNC, 1450, Gastonia, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
WECT, Chl. 6, Wilmington	noon
WJMX	2:30 p. m.
WKIX	2:30 p. m.
WKIT, Durham, N. C.	5:30 p. m.
WLOS, Chl. 13, Asheville	9:00 a. m.
WSAT, Salisbury, N. C.	2:30 p. m.
WAKI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	6:35 p. m.
WFIG, 1230, Sumter, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WHRI, 1340, Rock Hill, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WJRI, Lenoir, N. C.	5:35 p. m.
WGNT, 1400, Georgetown	5:35 p. m.
WHSC, 1450, Harsville, S. C.	5:35 p. m.
WRRZ, Clinton, N. C.	2:30 p. m.

Regular:

WDNC, Durham, N. C.	9:15 a. m.
WGTN, 1400, Georgetown	9:00 a. m.
WTOB, Winston-Salem, 1380-	9:15 a. m.
WHIP, Mooresville, N. C.	4:30 p. m.
WACA, 1590	8:40 a. m.
WABZ, Albemarle, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WBCU, 1460	9:00 a. m.
WEGO, 1410, Concord, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WSNW, 1150, Seneca, S. C.	9:30 a. m.
WBAW, 740, Barnewell, S. C.	10:00 a. m.
WGBR, Goldsboro, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:30 a. m.
WSIC, Statesville, N. C.	8:45 a. m.
WENC, 1240, Whiteville, N.C.	1:45 p. m.
WSHE, 570, Raleigh, N. C.	9:00 a. m.
WSHE, 570, Raleigh, N. C.	11:00 a. m.

"TUESDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.

"THURSDAY"

WOLS, 1230	11:45 A. M.
WWBD, Bamberg, S. C.	11:45 A. M.

"SATURDAY"

WACA, 1590	5:00 P. M.
WMNC	9:30 A. M.
WBCU	8:45 P. M.

"MONDAY-FRIDAY"

WCGD, Chester, S. C.	11:45 A. M.
WBAW, 740, Barnwell, S. C.	11:00 A. M.

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B. Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager

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You are cordially invited to attend

a series of

Gospel Meetings

at the

Valdese

CHURCH of CHRIST

GUEST SPEAKER

A T Pate

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

JUNE 13 - 24

8 P. M.

Jimmy Lonius, Nashville, Tennessee
SONG DIRECTOR

FIRST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 13 - 17

Assisting In The Work Are:
James A. Davis, Hendersonville, N. C.-Bob Plunkett, Spartanburg, S. C.

You are cordially invited to attend

a series of

GOSPEL MEETING

CHURCH OF CHRIST

WILSON, N.C.

JUNE 6 - 18

8 p. m. each evening

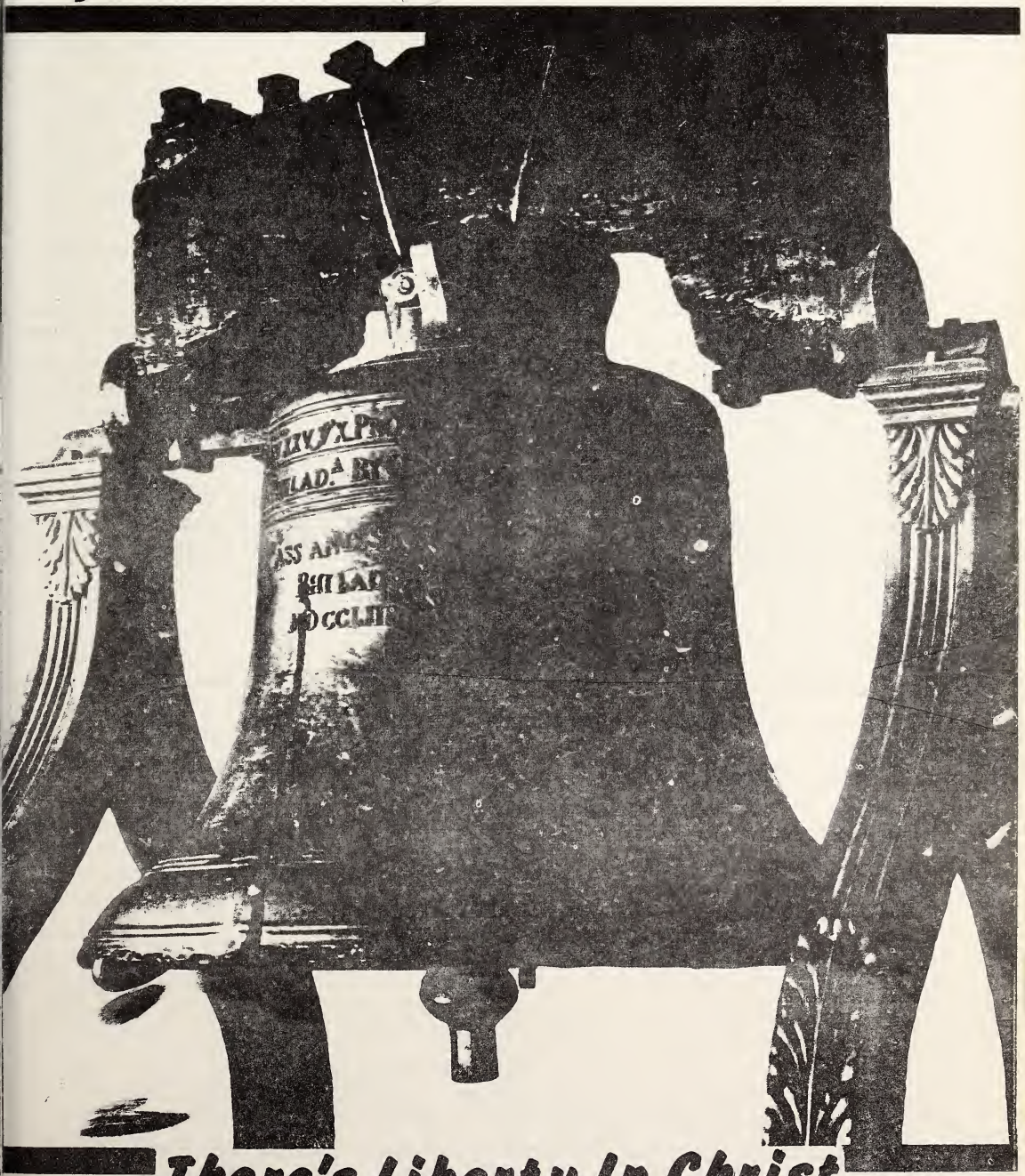
SERVICES HELD IN
NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY -- 405 EAST GOLD STREET

Speaker 1st. week
Jesse R. Melton

Speaker 2nd. week
Virgil Hale

Carolina MESSENGER of TRUTH

July 1960



There's Liberty In Christ

EDITORIAL

My family and I have just returned from a five-week stay in the mid-west and I was convinced anew of the great need of getting the Carolina story before the people. The average member of the church has little or no idea of the needs in these two states.

A common belief is that, since the Carolinas are a part of the South, there should be plenty of churches of Christ for the cause is strong in the South. Some say, "Campbell, Stone, and other restoration preachers worked in nearby Virginia and we ASSUMED that there were many congregations there." What they do not know is that all was lost in South Carolina and much in North Carolina and much of what has been regained has been done in the past 40 years.

Friends, we are missing the boat, striking out and drifting downstream if we fail to get this story before our brethren who would like to help carry the Gospel to the lost of the Carolinas. How can they be interested in this section when they ASSUME that the cause is strong?

A neat inexpensive folder would help do the following things:

1. Remove the mistaken assumption that there are plenty of churches of Christ in the Carolinas. It could give them such facts as (1) only 50 congregations in S. C. (2) some 55 counties in N. C. with no congregation.
2. Give the readers across the nation additional facts of importance about what is and can be done here.
3. Help preachers and congregations seeking financial assistance. Congregations, as a rule, move slowly and cautiously in these matters. A folder could plant the suggestion months or years before the appeal is made and it would help.
4. Appeal to preachers who would like to work in a mission area but who, for a number of reasons, cannot go overseas. Those churches which are experiencing so much difficulty in obtaining the services of a full-time preacher would have greater success if this story were well known. There are the right kind of preachers in the U. S. who would come if they knew the need.
5. Challenge churches to take the initiative in sending workers. Churches are constantly growing to the point of being ready and able to send out workers and fully support them. Some would choose the Carolinas if they knew about them.
6. Help more Carolinians hear the truth-before it is too late. Save everywhere but if many in these two states hear, we must take the lead. Do we not have a greater responsibility toward these people than anyone living outside the Carolinas?

No one project need nullify another. Every congregation could make up their own folder, go to the local printer and send the message on its way. The "talked about" story in the Gospel Advocate could and should be done. The "film-strip" story should be produced. This shop full of equipment on which the Messenger is produced sits idle three-fourths of the time. It could help tell this story for the cost of materials and printer to operate it.

Friends, why not arise and be heard?

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A WORTHY GOAL

Carl Lancaster
Greenville, S. C.

What do you hope to accomplish in life? What is a worthy goal? Solomon conducted an experiment to determine what the sons of men should do all the days of their life. He was well qualified for such an experiment. He was rich and influential enough to try anything to any extent that he desired and he was wise enough to discern the true results.

Solomon discovered there are many things that are not worthy goals. He gave himself to wine (Ecc. 2:3) but that was folly. Solomon and all the others who have turned to strong drink are witnesses to the fact that it never made a man wiser, stronger or more noble. To be deceived by it is to show lack of wisdom (Prov. 20: 1). Although it will clothe a man with rags and bring him sorrow without cause, yet he will continue to seek it again (Prov. 23: 20-21; 29-35).

Solomon tried accumulating possessions and great wealth. Such fabulous reports were given of his wealth that the Queen of Sheba could not believe them. After seeing his wealth she declared "the half was not told". Yet all of this was just a vexation of spirit to Solomon. A christian is to work to provide for his physical needs and those of his family (II Thes. 3:12). However, when acquiring riches becomes our goal, life becomes a meaningless cycle. We are "EATING TO LIVE AND LIVING TO EAT". It is said that John D. Rockefeller once showed a friend his vast possessions. The friend remarked as to what a fortunate man Rockefeller was. Rockefeller replied, "Yet all I receive from all of this is what I eat and wear". There is little more that we could receive from all the riches of the world! There are too many of man's needs here that riches cannot provide. Money cannot provide for any of his needs in the hereafter. So the seeking of wealth is not a worthy goal.

Solomon laid aside every restraint and allowed ANYTHING his heart desired (Ecc. 2:10). Surely this would bring happiness. But, no, his efforts still are futile. When we become angry how happy we feel we would be if we could turn ourselves loose and vent our feelings. Desires of the flesh become inflamed and what happiness it seems it would bring to lay aside every restraint. These are deceitful mirages presented by the devil. A life time of remorse and regret, to say nothing of suffering and regret for eternity, is too big a price to pay for a few moments of forbidden pleasures.

What is the conclusion to Solomon's experiment? What should the sons of men do all the days of their life? "Let us here the conclusion of the whole matter: FEAR GOD, AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: for this is the whole duty of man." (Ecc. 12:13). The most important thing a person who is not a christian can do is fear God and obey the commands of the gospel. The most important thing a christian can do is fear God and obey the instructions of the 21 epistles of the New Testament. It is of supreme importance that we respect and obey God. He who does that through life finds a great measure of happiness here and the greatest happiness of all hereafter.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING

Two readers from Tennessee write:

"Please find enclosed $2.00. Please send me the Messenger.

"We all enjoy reading it very much and hope it will continue."

"The Carolina Messenger has been a great joy to me. It has been an inspiration to me to study the word more as the days come and go.

BE SURE AND RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!!

CHOOSING A CHURCH

Johnny C. Sewell
Georgetown, S. C.

Many Americans are members of some church. They have made a religious choice. In this country there are well over 250 religious organizations. The matter of church membership must be decided on the right basis, for the answer you give is in view of eternity.

Some choose a church on the basis of such reasons as these: (1) My parents were members of that church. (2) This church meets closest to my home. (3) This congregation is large and fashionable. (4) Many social activities are planned there. (5) The members of the church are friendly. These things may be well and good, but they are not reasons for being members of any church. They miss the very heart of the matter!

Religion is to be a matter of conviction, not convenience, if it's worth anything. The New Testament tells about the church established by Christ (Matt. 16:18; Eph. 4: 4, 5; Acts 2:47). The scriptures describe this church in detail. "Every plant which my heavenly Father planted not, shall be rooted up." Matt. 15:13, Psa. 127:1 says, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." False doctrines make our worship vain. (Matt. 15:9.) Divisons are condemned in the scriptures. (John 17:20, 21; I Cor. 1:10.)

There is but one basis on which to choose church membership; that is, the specific teachings of the Bible. That is the rule by which we are to do all things religious. Christ has given us the choice as to whether or not we will obey his will and thus be a member of his church. (Acts 2; 47; Matt. 11:28-30.)

Whenever the seed of the kingdom, the word of God, is preached in its purity, a congregation of the Lord's church will be found. (Luke 8:11.) When the gospel in its completeness is preached and practiced in the 20th century, it will result in the exact same church as was founded by the apostles. Of that church and that church only you should be a member!

In conducting your investigation, go to the New Testament. See if you can find the name of the religious group under consideration. Compare the worship as set forth there, in the Bible, with the worship of the church you are considering. See if the church you are investigating teaches the full Bible plan of salvation. Is it governed on the same basis as the early congreations? Check every item of doctrine, practice and worship with the scriptures! You should be a member of the church that follows the scriptures-not just nearly, but completely. When you find one that does just that, you will find a congregation of the church of which you read in the Bible.

Although the Church of Christ greets its visitors and members most cordially and may be located near many, these are not reasons to be members of it. We invite you to search the scriptures to see whether or not what we preach and teach is truth. (Acts 17:30, 31.) If you do this, you will see that the true gospel is preached among us and will be drawn to obedience of the truth and will then be added, not by man but by the Lord, to the church that Jesus built, Acts 2:47, to the Church of Christ.

ISN'T IT STRANGE

THAT men will live unprepared to die and meet God when they know that they must do so and that the time may come any moment.

THAT many men who will not obey the gospel want their wife and childern to be Christians.

THAT little things that keep one away from worship on Sunday does not keep him away from work on Monday.

THAT some who claim to have open minds do not have it open wide enough for all truth.

What's Wrong With Young People?

Tom Bunting

I really don't believe that our young people are as bad as the above caption suggests. They were not born totally depraved! Any depravity of soul or mind has come as a result of their contact with the world about them, which they were not equipped to meet. Wisdom and understnading are musts in any age of the world and the present time is no exception. Solomon's admonition is still good, "Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not;. . ." (Pro. 4:5). Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold. For wisdom is better than rubies..." (Pro. 8:10, 11a).

In every community and in every congregation of the Lord's people there are problems of morality and the lack of spiritual interest among the young people. Then the parents and others ask, "What is wrong with our young people?" May I suggest some things that have increased the magnitude of this problem.

LOWERING OF PUBLIC MORAL STANDARDS. I'm not thinking of each individual's moral standard but the public in general, and those things that are made public. We can see a lowering of moral standards in every phase of life. The movis censors now are allowing many scenes that only a few years ago would have been cut. One prominent actor recently stated publicly that he was embarrassed when he took his wife and 19 year old daughter to see a recent production. Yet, the movies are one of the top entertainments for young people. The same things are taking place in literature and on TV. On television cursing is done so often now that one is almost afraid to let his children watch "Huckleberry Hound" without first censoring it. The movies, books, TV and even advertising have definitely lowered moral standards. One of the educators of Sault St. Marie, Ontario recently stated, after watching a premier of a new movis, 'Good photography, lighting, sound, and color, but what did one come out with? It was depraving!" Doesn't this help us understand what is happening to our young people?

LACK OF PARENTAL AUTHORITY. Parents should have more wisdom and understanding than a young person between the ages of 12-17. It is very important that these young people remain under the control and influence of their parents. H. Leo Boles said, "It is woeful to observe an almost total failure on the part of parents to exercise their authority in controlling their children." We hear so much about children who do not obey their parents. Could this "rebellion" be due to the fact that paretns have not exercised authority over their children?

Parents have a great responsibility and the best opportunity in helping a child mold good character. But this can only be done if the child is living at home. Young people between the ages of 12-17 are still forming character and habits. It is surely a dangerous thing for a parent to release a child from the home life and association with parents and let them go to work, make their own way and form their own character without parental guidance. It is good for young people to earn part of their expense, but there are far too many 13-16 year old boys and girls working away from parental authority with the result of a lowering of morals and engaging in terrible sins.

EVIL COMPANIONS. Often this problem is underestimated; we don't really believe that the companions our children choose makes a great deal of difference. This would be demonstrated when we as parents say absolutely nothing about those with whom our sone or daughter should associate.

Paul tells us, "Evil companions corrupt good morals..." I Cor. 15;33). "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers ..." (I Cor. 6:14). In these two passages

see page 7

Remember Aberdeen

J. D. Parker
Winston-Salem, N. C.

Slogans are useful only to the degree that they remind us of something important; furthermore, they pay off only when action is provoked. "Remember the sabbath day", "Remember Lot's wife", perhaps were not slogans in the sense that we use the term today, but they were statements designed to serve a useful end. We hope and pray that "Remember Aberdeen" proves to be such a goad to our memory that congregations will arise within the Carolinas to grasp another opportunity to put a full-time gospel preacher in a section of the Old North State that until a few years ago was not familiar with simple truths of the message of God.

Aberdeen, N. C., a peaceful, prosperous little community of some 1,550 souls, located in the beautiful "sandhills" area of the state, is already "ripe unto harvest". People are anxious to hear the truths of old, divorced from the traditions and creeds of men. Too long have they been bored with denominational sermonettes and flattering words. Now the time is opportune to plant more firmly the Cause of our Lord in the hearts of these receptive citizens. Let us arise from our complacency and hold aloft the hands of the small group of brethren who heretofore have just been keeping house for the Lord. A capable, young man is available and willing to go; in fact, he is going without any guaranteed support as of yet. If you haven't guessed it yet, this is another appeal for help and an opportunity for churches in the Carolinas to demonstrate the faith which we have by WORKS.

The church in this small city is only five years old and is composed of ten faithful and willing-to-work members. For two years they assembled in the American Legion Hut. In 1957 they were able to purchase a white frame structure, nestled among beautiful shade trees and only two blocks from the business section. Sufficient payments have been made on the building until their indebtedness amounts to only $2,900. Another added feature of the building is its proximity to U. S. Highway 1 which passes within three blocks. The nearest congregation of God's people are at Rockingham (28 miles) and Fayetteville (30 miles). There are several towns ranging in population from 5,600 to 1,200 within a radius of eight miles.

Darrell Beard graduated from Freed-Hardeman College in 1957 after completing three years of work and had been preaching for five years. He is a young man of ability and dedication to the Lord. We have known him for the past three years and are competent to evaluate his work at Warners Chapel. During that time he has preached on a weekly radio program that has reached many in this area. He is not a hobbyist but a determined proclaimer of the good news. His good wife is affable and an asset to him in his work. Darrell's father is an elder in the church at Salem, Ill. Without reservation we recommend Darrell to the churches in the Carolinas and compliment him on his willingness to undertake a work in a mission area. Let's send help right away! He is moving the last week in July.

Advertizing?



WHAT'S WRONG (cont'd)

Paul presents the problem of companionship. We are not talking only of the marriage relationship but using this term, companionship, in all of life's association.

Every association in life is bound to have some effect upon us. It might be that the weak will be made strong. The strong may be made weak. Or it might be a compromise where the strong is weakened and the weak a little stronger but for the good of neither.

We cannot choose evil companions without expecting to be influenced by their evil to some extent. "A good girl does not run with a bad crowd long without partaking of some of their sins. A good boy cannot associate with a gang of hoodlums without having some part in their vices. A godly husband and wife will not keep company with a corrupt couple without being contaminated. Few people of faith and fidelity can have very close friendship with a skeptic or atheist without having their faith shaken." (Leslie Diestelkamp, "Truth Magazine").

In facing the problem of companionship we have two suggestions: (1) Choose the very best associates possible; (2) If they have weaknesses make sure that their weakness does not become yours!

WHAT CAN WE DO? We can do all in our power to keep the community, state, province and nation in which we live from lowering their standards of morals. How? Start with your won family; see that they hold the some high standard of morals as revealed in God's word. Insist that the church teach uncompromisingly against sin! Use your civil right of voting. Vote for the legislation that is good and always against any that tends to lower moral standards.

What can I do about the lack of parental authority? Why, every parent can do much here. "Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord..." Eph. 6:4. Instruct them in the way they should go. Exercise the God-given, God-commanded parental authority over our children.

What can I do about evil companions? Young people, choose the very best companions possible. Parents, instruct and encourage your children to be able to judge a good companion and make a wise choice. Know those with whom your children are associating. Open your home to gatherings of Christian young people. Discourage evil association.

In closing let me ask this question, hoping that it will provoke thoughts, WHAT ARE WE DOING TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE?

PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN YOU MOVE so that you will not miss an issue of the paper. If you know of anyone who is not receiving it, please let us know. Mail your communication to P. O. Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C.

Be a Christian!

IF YOU have not yet become a disciple of the Lord we urge you to become a Christian, nothing more, nothing less. It is very simple to begin. Just believe with all of your heart that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Then repent of your sins, your wrong-doing. This means a change of will which turns you toward God.

Then let your faith lead you to confess to others your belief in Jesus and to be buried with him in baptism unto the remission of your sins (Acts 2:38, Romans 6:4). Then the Lord will add you to his spiritual body, his church.

You may start at this point to follow Christ's commands for you each day. It will be an abundant life and if you will remain faithful to the Lord you will enjoy a crown of life and an eternal home in heaven when this life is over.

If you wish assistance in beginning the Christian life, you may look up the phone number of the nearest church of Christ and call for any member to come and assist you in taking this wonderful step. We pray that you will do so at once!

—M. Norvel Young.

News

ROCKINGHAM, N. C.
Joe Riggs, Evangelist

After a little over two years with the church here we are making plans to move to Calvert City, Kentucky. We have enjoyed the time spent here, and appreciate the help and encouragement given to us during this time.

Anyone interested in locating here should contact O. A. Richardson, Box 27, Rockingham, N.C. He is one of the elders here.

The work here seems to be on the move, as the averages for the first six months of the year show. We are especially happy over the record attendance of 59 for our Wednesday night service. The average for June was 54.

JACKSON, S. C.
Submitted by Jimmy Dorris

Bro. Bob Kessinger, of Waynesboro, Georgia, recently conducted a series of gospel meetings, during which several responded to the Lord's invitation.

A note of sadness was inter - jected with the passing of Bro. Harold Gray Bennett, Sr. on Friday, June 17. Bro. Bennett was an outstanding leader in the church here. He was our song leader, and a highly dependable member of the congregation. He will be missed by all who had the honor of knowing him.

BARNWELL, S. C.
Jimmy Dorris, Evangelist

The work in Barnwell continues to press forward. There have been ten responses during the last few weeks. We now have approximately $ 12,000 in the fund

BARNWELL continued:

for our new building which we hope to begin next June. We are hoping to add another $ 12,000 to the fund by that time.

Our mid-week services are averaging in the 60's; our Sunday services are averaging between 70 and 80. Recently 22 members have moved away.

This congregation will be 3 years old in Auguat.

---- SPECIAL APPEAL ----

The brethren of the Southside church in Asheville are solicit ing contributions for the erection of a new church building. Each congregation is asked to contribute $ 25.00, although a donation of any size would be appreciated. Please address all correspondence to Lester Jones, 130 Livingston Street, in Asheville, North Carolina.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist

We had one baptism and one restoration in May. Used clothing is being collected to send to Southwestern Christian College, at Terrell, Texas. This is done regularly here, to help finance the school. We are also saving postage stamps for NICE at Villanova, Pa., to help finance the school there.

TRYON, N. C.
Submitted by Mrs. E. H. Haynes

We are grateful that Bro. Wm. M. Deuells, from Phoenix, Arizona has agreed to begin work here sometime after July 4th. The church has purchased a home to be used by the preacher and his family.

TRYON continued:

Our gospel meeting will begin July 17, with Brethren Jim Woodroof and T. A. Isaacs preaching. A song service will be conducted each evening at 7:00 and on Sunday, July 24, at 3:00 p. m. All are urged to attend.

We are grateful to Bro. Chester Womack for his fine assistance to the work here. Such a spirit of faithfulness often is unheralded, although it is essential to the body of Christ.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

We have had 23 responses since our last report, 19 of which came during our meeting with Bro. Thomas Burton. Our attendnace is very good, and indications are that this will be our best summer. We plan to enlarge our building by adding classrooms in the near future. We plan to work with the church here another year.

DUNCAN, S. C.
Submitted by Paul Rodgers

The church here just finished the best VBS ever conducted by this congregation. The average attendance was 99, with only the first night service less than one hundred.

We regret to report that Bro. Milton S. Parker will conclude his work with the church here on August 7th. They are to begin work in Trenton, Georgia. Bro. Parker and his family have meant much to the work here, and we believe that wherever they go, they will continue to do so. Our prayers go with them.

As yet, no one has been chosen by the church to succeed him.

WILLISTON, S. C.
Paul Wilkinson, Evangelist

We enjoyed a good meeting recently, with Bro. N. E. Sewell, of Wilmington, N. C., as speaker. Although no visible result were seen, we believe much good was accomplished.

Bro. Riley Moore, of Columbia Tennessee, preached in a series of meetings at Albemarle, N. C. May 15-25, where the Frank Miltons are doing a good work. We were happy to direct the singing five nights in this meeting but were unable to conclude the meeting, due to illness at home.

Interest in Williston is continuing high. Weekly contributions have been around $ 130. Interest among our young people regarding the Carolina Bible Camp is high. We hope to have several in camp this year. Our first VBS will be conducted during the last week in August.

LANCASTER, S. C.
Submitted by W. S. Rentz

Bro. Richard Harp, a recent graduate of David Lipscomb College, is to begin work with the church here early in July. Our numbers have increased recently by the addition of new members moving to Lancaster. Work continues on the building project. We rejoice with the church in Rock Hill for their new building.

---- SPECIAL NOTICE ----

Bro. George S. Smith, recently retired, is offering to work with small churches that are unable to support a full-time evangelist. Address correspondence to 25 Ranger Dr. Charleston, S. C. References supplied.

WOODLEAF, N. C.
Corinth Congregation
Ottis L. Qualls, Evangelist

There were six baptisms during May at Corinth. Brother Albert Gonce of Greensboro will be with us in a meeting July 17-23. Be with us, if you can.

We will conclude one year of work in the Carolinas in June.

A new young people's class begun recently has far exceeded our expectations.

I have time for two or three meetings this summer.

FLORENCE, S. C.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist

On June 3rd, Harold Scott concluded a fine series of lessons on "The Great Commission." This was one of the most successful meetings. More non-members attended than ever before. We are already noticing an increase in interest in personal work in the church here.

We have recently lost two families who moved away but rejoice that two are coming from Ohio to work for the DuPont company.

FORT BRAGG, N. C.
Submitted by Oscar P. Craft

Since our last report there has been one baptism, and one to confess wrong.

We have lost several families here recently, due to transfers to other posts.

Bro. L. F. Sears has moved to Lumberton, from Rock Hill, where he plans to start a work. Please contact him at 1101 East 11 St., Lumberton, N. C., if you know of any Christians in that area, or if you have friends or relatives in that area.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

We have just completed our VBS for this year. Attendance averaged 90 per day. Recently one was baptized and two identified themselves with the Judson congregation. Last month we began a new Bible class for the young married people. Efforts are still being made to secure property for a new church building in a new location in town. We covet your prayers for us.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

There have been two baptisms, and one restoration here during the past month. A new membership list was completed recently. Including both active and inactive members, we now number 61. Attendance for the morning worship averaged 95, and contributions $ 125.82 per Sunday, during the month of May.

CHEROKEE, N. C.
Chester A. Hunnicutt, Evang.

A tent meeting will be held in Cherokee from June 26th thru July 24th. Some 100 workers are to assist in this effort. Bro. John D. Cox will speak the 1st week, Bro. Earl Woods the 2nd, Bro. Earman Bain the 3rd, and Bro. E. E. Allbritton the 4th week. Attend, if you can, and bring some good used clothing for the Indians.

---- SPECIAL NOTICE ----

Preacher wishing to locate here:

BRO. LYNN N. HOWZE
Box 243 Baker, Florida

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, preacher

We are looking forward to a profitable series of Teacher Training Courses with Edward Davis, Seneca, S. C. The course will include both film-strips and written material and will be conducted on Tuesday and Thursday night of each week for five weeks beginning July 12. All of those interested are urged to attend at 7:45 P. M. This will be a wonderful opportunity for those who now teach or who wish to learn to teach.

Our Vacation Bible School is planned for August 1-5. Efforts are being made to get children from the community to attend. Our collection last Sunday was $67.70. Another one of our families moved away in June leaving our membership at 29.

ABOUT THE DIRECTORY???

Last month we asked you to express your interest in a revised directory of churches of Christ in the Carolinas. Perhaps some of you have forgotten about it. Would you like one? If so, let us hear from you.

BE A WORKER FOR "MESSENGER"

We need volunteers in every community to work for the Carolina Messenger. We are not able to leave our work of preaching the Word to visit every place and solicit your support of the paper. Harold Scott is doing a fine job and he would appreciate your help in your community. Request that some announcements be made at the congregation where you attend about the paper. Talk about it enthuiastically. Be loyal to the Carolinas. Show your interest by obtaining subscriptions for the paper. Any one of the articles is worth more than the price of the Messenger for a whole year. Would you ask any one of the writers to come to your door and deliver a lesson for $2.00? There is power in the written word.

"KEEP COOL WITH ADVICE FROM EXPERT"

In a recent issue of the **Arkansas Democrat** appeared a brief feature with the above caption. The first paragraph follows:

"Looking smart while keeping cool and comfortable on a hot summer day in town takes a lot of doing. 'Here are some pertinent points to keep in mind,' says lovely Barbara LaMarr, prominent health and beauty consultant for a noted cosmetic and beauty firm. Especially when the temperature hits a sizzling 90 degrees."

From among more than 20 suggestions this beauty consultant listed for keeping cool we list a few:

"Don't wear slacks or shorts."
"Don't wear see-through sheers."
"Don't wear low-cut tops.'
"Do wear a dress, suit or separates."

Perhaps the more skeptical are still not convinced. Bob Thomas, the Hollywood feature writer interviewed actress Audrey Hepburn just after she returned from filming a picture in the sweltering Belgian Congo. In the film she wore the clothing of a nun. Thomas interviewed her in California at a hot time of the year, and asked her about the California heat. Her reply:

" 'It doesn't bother me too much.' she said. 'Notice I have long sleeves and am pretty well covered. That's the way to keep cool. Insulation.

" 'In the Congo, a cool day was 100, and the weather was often 130. People ask me if I didn't swelter in my nun's habit. I didn't. Actually all that covering keeps the heat out'."

The reasons these two women gave for modesty in the summer did not stem from moral virtues. Further the two women we quoted occupy positions in which modesty, as a virtue, is given little or no consideration.

The conclusion we must come to, then, is that if Christian women expose their bodies in the summer (thus bringing reproach to the church) they are either completely ignorant as to how to keep cool, or they have ulterior motives in their display.

—Wallace Alexander.

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP

Incorporated

Aug. 14-20 & 21-27

Well kids, it's almost here. There are just about six weeks left for you to make your reservation for CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP. The camp this year promises to be the best yet. Separate programs are scheduled for younger (ages 9-12) and older (ages 13-18). This is the first year that such a schedule will have been followed. It is believed that it will add much to the success of the camp.

The dates for the two week camp are August 14-20 and 21-27. The price is still the same - $15.50 per week, which is very reasonable. The food is still excellently prepared and served by "Butler's Bucket Brigade". An interesting course of Bible study is being prepared by Nelson Smith. The singing is under the direction of C. W. Bradley and James Woodroof. Sam Norman is director of athletics, and a whole corps of Christian men and women are preparing diligently to make the 1960 camp an unforgettable experience in Christian association, Bible study and recreation. You just can't afford to miss. Send your application now to: James McDonald, Box 64, Union, S. C. See you at Camp!

James Woodroof

BONDS FOR SALE

$16,000 in $100 varieties to mature over 12 year period paying 6% semi-annually. To be used to purchase seats and improve property.

COMPLETE INFORMATION UPON REQUEST

Address reservations to:

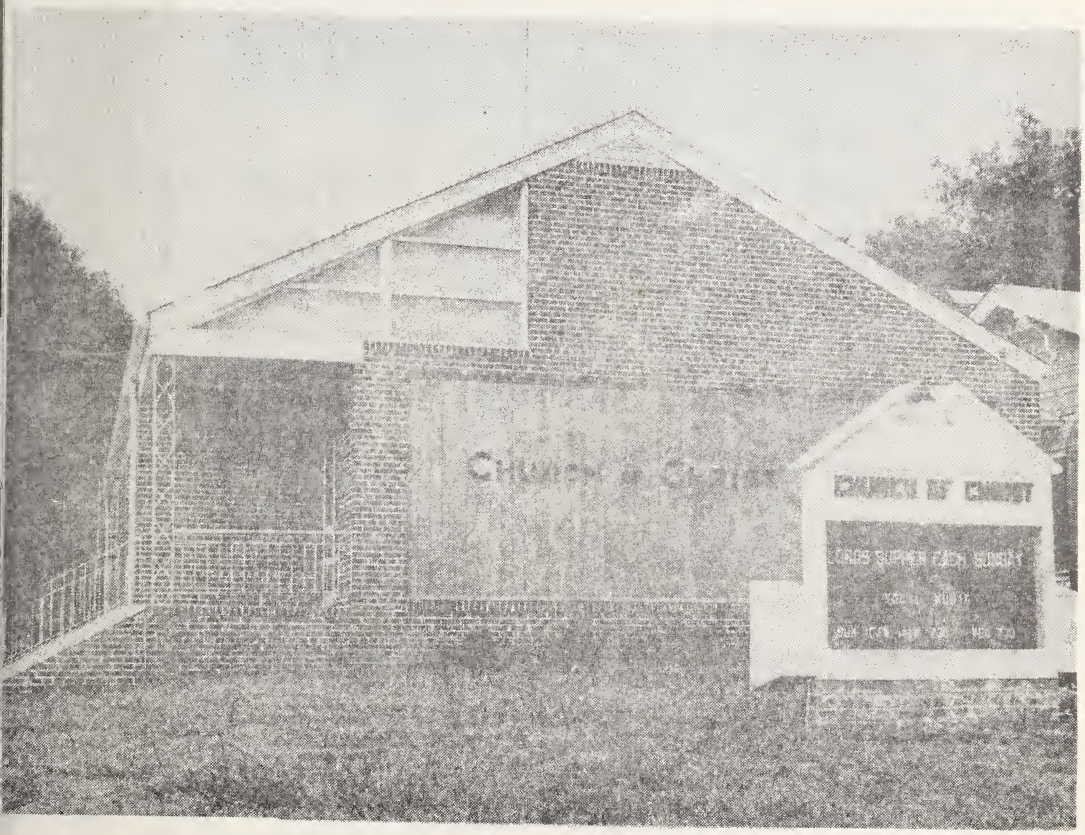
Marion Church of Christ

P. O. Box 452

Marion, N. C.

"MAKE YOUR MONEY WORK FOR THE LORD AND FOR YOU"

Carolina MESSENGER OF TRUTH



August 1960

What Then??

When all the great plants of our cities;
Have turned out their last finished work;
When our merchants have sold their last yard of silk,
And dismissed the tired, weary clerk;
When our banks have taken in their last dollar,
And declared their last dividend;
When the Judge of the world says "Close for the night",
And asks for a balance, — **What THEN?**

When the choir has sung it's last anthem,
And the preacher has said his last prayer;
When the people have heard their last sermon,
And the sound has died out of the air;
When the Bible lies closed on the altar,
And the pews are all empty of men;
When we all stand facing the record,
And the Great Book is opened, — **WHAT THEN?**

When the actor has played his last drama,
And the mimic has made his last fun;
When the film has flashed it's last picture,
And the billboard displayed it's last run;
When the crowds seeking pleasure have vanished,
And come out into darkness again;
When the trumpet of all ages is sounded
And we all stand bfore God, — **WHAT THEN?**

When the bugle's last call sinks in silence,
And the long, marching columns stand still;
When the Captain has given his last orders,
And they've captured the last fort and last hill;
When the flag has been hauled from the mast-head,
And all wounded soldiers checked in;
When a world that rejected it's Saviour.
Is asked for a reason, — **WHAT THEN?**

COVER PHOTO

This picture shows the remodeled front of the building in Wilmington, N. C. The panel is redwood and the stand-off letters are plastic. They have also repainted the auditorium, and added a ceiling-to-floor curtain behind the pulpit. All the work was done by members of the church. Note the identifying marks in the lawn sign to assist traveling brethren in locating the true church.

SCOTT NEEDS HELP!!

Circulation Manager, Harold Scott, is trying very hard to increase the circulation to 2,000. Check the back page and see how you can best help.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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B. Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager

Publication Staff:
R. E. Taylor, Publisher
Preperation for mailing by members of church in Greenville.

Staff Writers:
C. W. Bradley — James Woodroof
O. P. Baird — T. A. Isaacs
Noyles E. Sewell

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THE BARNWELL STORY

O. P. Baird
Columbia, S. C.

Something has happened at Barnwell, S. C., that is a wonderful encouragement to all who have heard about it. The church began meeting in Barnwell in August, 1957, with seventeen members. The next Jan. Brother and Sister James W. Dorris went to work with the congregation. There were then twenty-one members. They do not yet have a building of their own but meet in the American Legion building. Recently Bro. Dorris spoke at the first meeting of the personal workers training group at the Park St. church in Columbia and he said there were eighty-nine members at Barnwell at that time. Twenty-two had moved away since Bro. Dorris went there. Adding these two figures and deducting the seventeen original members shows a growth of eighty-four. There have been one hundred and twenty-one responses (baptisms and restorations) in Barnwell during that period of time, two years and five months.

How did they do it? It was done by personal work. In the first place, Bro. Dorris is one of the most untiring workers I have ever seen. He told us how he had gone into the hospital and visited people and obtained invitations to go into their homes for Bible study with them. The people in the church at Barnwell get their friends interested in having Bible study in their homes. There are several in the congregation now who can do an effective job of teaching in those classes. New converts become energetic workers in arranging for other classes that more may be won to Christ.

This kind of success under adverse conditions is in startling contrast to the story in most places in the Carolinas. There have been a few places where the growth was very encouraging but usually growth is painfully slow, especially until the church obtains a building. In most cases it continues to be slow even after the building is obtained. I believe there are some lessons for us in the Barnwell story.

The question has been raised many times as to whether it is better to build up the church and then build a meeting place or to erect the building first. I do not propose to settle that question, but the Barnwell story certainly teaches us that we do not have to wait for a building. I have heard the opinion expressed that the first thing that should be done in a mission field is to erect an attractive building. It is said that this will gain respect for the church and let the people know that it will be permanent in the community. I strongly believe that should be done when possible but I no longer attach the importance I once did to a building. The building will help but it is not the power for wiming people to Christ. The Barnwell story impresses upon us anew the Bible truth that "the gospel is the power of God unto salvation". When sincere people are brought to an understanding of the gospel of Christ they will obey it no matter how few will be standing with them. No matter how nice a building a church might have, not many are likely to be attracted to the building. A building will make our work easier but we still have to go to the people and teach them the gospel and that will convert them, building or no building.

The great commission says, "Go". Bro. Dorris said they were not just establish - ing a place to preach and expecting the people to come of their own accord to hear. They are going to the people individually. The Barnwell brethren have a building site and they hope to build next summer. They plan a building that will seat about 360 and will have ten or twelve class rooms. They have not waited for a building before going to work teaching the gospel and that little group has converted more people in two and a half years without a building than most congregations in the Carolinas that have buildings.

 (see page 4)

What Is Your Standard?

BARNWELL STORY (cont'd)

There are many new congregations in the Carolinas. We thank God for that. These congregations are small but we must forget about our smallness and think of the greatness of Christ's sacrifice and of His promises, forget our weakness and think of the power of the gospel to save. If we will do this and go all-out for teaching the people individually as well as by public teaching we shall see glorious victories for Christ in the Carolinas.

Thank you, Jimmy Dorris and the little Barnwell group, for the tremendous lesson you have given us. May it cause us to take heart and go out and find people who will listen, and in fear and trembling, in patience and love, teach them the will of the Lord as you have done.

BIBLE STORIES ON TAPE

"The College Church of Christ, Abilene, Texas, has prepared over 100 fifteen minute programs on magnetic tape featuring the great stories of the Bible.

The stories are told by two talented young ladies, Carolyn Kelly Mickey and Jo Anne Bassham Rigney. The programs are appealing to both children and adults.

The College Church will make these available at cost to any congregation that would like to have them. If the congregation wishes to furnish the tape, then the programs can be made available for $1.00 each. If the College Church furnishes the tape, then the programs can be made available for $2.25 each.

The programs were presented on one of the radio stations in Abilene, and they received enthusiastic response."

The printed word oftentimes outlives a man. Good men, therefore, should be encouraged to write.

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

Sometime ago a man visited me in the church office. He was very discouraged and disappointed in religion. I shall relate his story to the best of my memory.

"I cannot believe anyone anymore. One man tells me one thing and another tells me something else. One man says he is teaching the correct way, and another, who also says he is teaching the correct way, completely contradicts the other man. I am so confused; I do not know which way to turn. I have about decided that none of the churches or preachers are right. And now I have only one thing to turn to. I have decided to make an effort to recall to mind what my mother taught me. I believe that this is the only safe course."

Truly this is a sad situation. God's word is not responsible for this. If thru the past years, people had been more determined to work for the unity for which our Lord prayed and taught, this man would not be so disappointed today. A divided religious world is doing more to turn many completely away from the Bible than any other one thing. Members of the churches of Christ continue to plead for a complete return to God's word and to the simple church revealed therein.

The man who made the above remarks does not realize that the Bible is not responsible for all the confusion. Neither does he realize that he is turning to the wrong standard when he turns to his mother. It is fine and right that we respect and honor our parents, but they are not to be our standard in religion. They are human and are subject to make mistakes. I encouraged this man to go to the New Testament with the determination to follow whatever it teaches. This is the only right way.

What is your standard in religious matters? Have you ever stopped to seriously

 (see page 5)

N. T. MUSIC

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

The New Testament teaches the use of music in worship. It requires a certain kind of music.

"And when they had SUNG an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives." Matt. 26:30; Mk. 14:26.

"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and SANG praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them." Acts 16:25.

"And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles and SING unto thy name." Rom. 15:9.

"What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will SING with the spirit, and I will SING with the understanding also." I Cor. 14:15.

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, SINGING and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Eph. 5:19.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, SINGING with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Col. 3:16.

"Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I SING praise unto thee." Heb. 2:12.

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him SING psalms." Jas. 5:13.

Therefore, we must conclude that the kind of music the Lord desires to be used in worship to him is, not instrumental, but vocal. Worship God with SINGING!

INCORRECT ADDRESSES

Please help us find the correct mailing address of the following:
Myrtle Little, Winston-Salem, N. C.

(see page 6)

STANDARD (cont'd)

investigate your beliefs? From whence came they? Are they of heaven, or came they from men? Only the truth as revealed in God's word can save you. Be sure your faith springs from a knowledge of God's word.

WELCOME, NEW PREACHERS

We welcome the following preachers who have recently moved into the Carolinas. We know that they will add strength to the ever increasing force of workers. We are most concerned about the continued unity and cooperation of churches of the Lord in these two states. We desire to save the lost not confuse the saved. Again, we say, "Welcome" to:

Tom Bolick, Chester, S. C.

W. H. Johnson, Burlington, N. C.

Gordon Teffeteller, Durham, N. C.

Dwain Ginn, Franklin, N. C.

Clay Henderson, Hickory, N. C.

Clayton Winters, Lexington, N. C.

Wally Beasley, Troy, N. C.

W. M. Deuells, Tryon, N. C.

James Castleberry, Waynesville, N. C.

Alexander Campbell, Aiken, S. C.

Richard Harp, Lancaster, S. C.

Herschel Davis, New Ellenton, S. C.

Al Frakes, Rock Hill, S. C.

HELP CBC GROW

ADDRESSES (cont'd)

Helen Warner, Rt. 1, Lewisville, N. C.
Glonna Kingsmore, Union, S. C.
Kenneth Tankersley, Box 365, Travelers Rest, S. C.
Maragret Lamb, Rt. 1, Duncan, S. C.
Elvin Jones, Winston-Salem, N. C.

The Messenger has been returned from these addresses. If you know the correct address, please let us know.

AREA MEETING

You are invited to an area-wide meeting regarding the Carolina Messenger of Truth in Florence, S. C., Tuesday, September 13, 1960. We have not decided on the place to eat but the time will be 1:00 P. M. We are encouraging all within driving distance to come. You will enjoy the fellowship.

Advertizing?



C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

Almost five years ago several Christians in the Carolinas met in Statesville for the purpose of making plans to begin a Summer camp for young people. The following Summer Carolina Bible Camp opened. At that time, I was convinced that Summer camps offer wonderful opportunities for helping our youth. Today, I am even more strongly convinced.

In its short history, Carolina Bible Camp has already touched and influenced the lives of hundreds of young Christians in the Carolinas. Last year approximately 300 attended. In my files are letters, from some of these young people, in which they express their sincere thanks for the encouragement and enrichment they have received.

For any worthwhile endeavor to succeed there must be those who really believe in it, and who are willing to work to make it succeed. I sincerely believe that Carolina Bible Camp deserves the encouragement and backing of every Christian in the Carolinas. I believe it is a good work and I hope that you feel the same way.

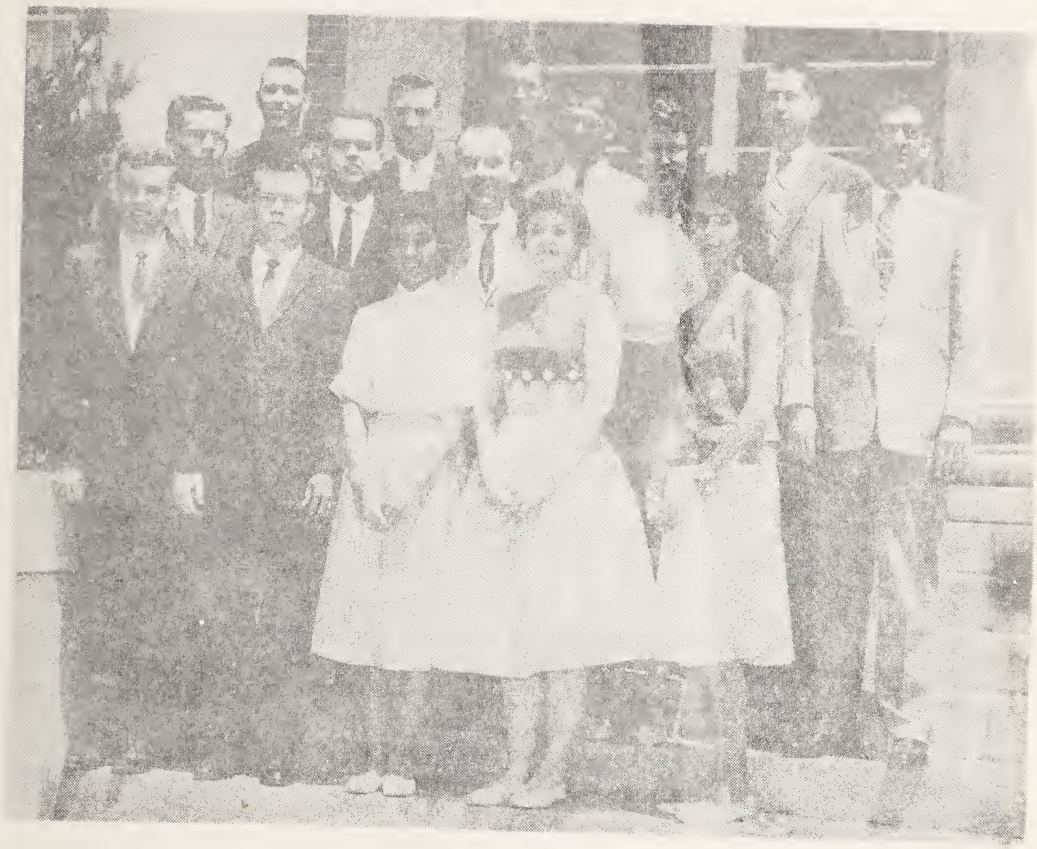
If you do believe that Carolina Bible Camp is worthwhile, will you become enthusiastic about it? Will you encourage the young people in your congregation to attend camp this year? Will you urge them to send in their application immediately? Camp begins August 14th. and this date is rapidly approaching.

Remember this: Many good works often fail, not because we are against them, but simply because we are not for them enough to become enthusiastic supporters.

LET'S HELP CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP TO GROW IN ITS INFLUENCE!

SCOTT NEEDS HELP

Help Harold Scott scoot to 2,000 subs. !!!



CAROLINA CLUB

The Carolina Club of David Lipscomb College invites you--the youth of the Carolinas--to attend school at David Lipscomb College where the Bible is taught daily.

Pictures above: First row: Wilson Burton, Ebern Watson, (President), Jean Buchanan, (Treasurer), Gaye Rice, Valerie Strayhorn. Second row: Benny Burns, Donald Danner, Tony Forrest, Leatha Patton, (Secretary), Lewis Maiden, (Sponser). Third row: Jim Heard, Joe Buchanan, Bert Harvey, (Vice-President), Dick Pridgen and Harold Baker, (Sponser).

PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN YOU MOVE so that you will not miss an issue of the paper. If you know of anyone who is not receiving it, please let us know. Mail your communication to P. O. Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C.

DID YOU GET THE PAPER?

We hope you have always received your Messenger but if you have not please let us know. Some of you are not receiving it because your subscription has expired.

News

GASTONIA, N. C.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist

Everett Ferguson, the Dean of Northeastern Institute of Christian Education at Villanova, Pennsylvania spoke here in June. Bob Rigdon, of Sylva, N. C. has been chosen to speak in our fall meeting. Two of our members are to be on the staff of Carolina Bible Camp. Evelyn Yearwood is to serve as camp nurse and Dolly Burton will be a counsellor, for a week.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Oscar P. Craft, Reporting

On July third, the congregation concluded a very fine series of gospel meetings with Bro. Stanley Lockhart, of San Angelo, Texas preaching. Through out the entire meeting, Brother Lockhart presented the gospel in its purity and simplicity. One was baptized during the meeting, and two more the next Sunday.

The song service for these meetings was conducted by Bro. Frank Cahoon of Raleigh, N. C.

ALLENDALE, S. C.
Luther A. Atkinson, Evangelist

My wife and I have moved back to Allendale, where we formerly worked in 1954 and part of 1955. The congregation here is composed of twelve Christians, six men and their wives.

During May, I preached in a one-week meeting, which was attended well. Since we have returned, three have placed membership, two have been restored, and five have been baptized. Of

ALLENDALE continued:

those who were baptized, three were ladies visiting from Pennsylvania, one of them 77 years of age.

I go to Atlanta, Georgia for a gospel meeting in September.

CHARLESTON, S. C.
Riverside Park Congregation
Rawden L. Bullard, Evangelist

The church here invites the cooperation of sister congregations throughout the area in donating needed items for the inmates of Tennessee Orphans Home. A truck will be sent into our area to gather the material.

Each church is asked to donate whatever they desire in the way of food (canned or staple) farm produce, including feed for livestock, and usable clothing, of any size. To save time, each church is asked to collect these goods in one place, where the truck can pick it up at the time of collection. Of course, this is entirely voluntary work, and no ill will is held toward those who have objections to this endeavor.

Let us know of your decision as soon as possible. Address me care of the church, Sans Souci, at Hester Streets, Charleston.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

Bro. T. A. Isaacs begins a meeting in Winston-Salem on July 18th through July 23rd. He and Bro. Jim Woodroof will alternate each evening with the song leading and preaching duties.

We are making every effort to encourage each child to attend the Carolina Bible Camp, in Aug-

CHARLOTTE continued:

ust this year. The healthy association enjoyed there has a most beneficial effect on our children and those from non-Christian homes.

Continued pressure on both press and radio is necessary to keep our daily Dial-A-Devotion program growing. We are considering regular newspaper ads, and hotel, motel and other public listings so we can keep this service constantly in front of the public. Many an inquiry and a resulting precious soul have been benefitted.

We have been blessed recently by the transfer into our midst of two fine Christians with whom we are happy to work and worship.

The men here at the Plaza are helping the congregations in the Piedmont area by preaching and song leading, whenever possible. Let us support these small congregations with our presence as often as we can.

Bro. P. L. Manning, of Tifton Georgia, expressed a willingness to return to the Carolinas. He may be reached at P. O. Box 222, Tifton, Georgia. He has worked with the churches in Salisbury, N. C. and Duncan, S. C.

Bro. Wally Beasley, originally of the Plaza congregation and recently a student at David Lipscomb College, and evangelist at McMinnville, Tennessee, is being supported as a full-time evangelist at Troy, N. C. We wish the Lord's blessings on Wally, his good wife, and their son.

ST. HELENA ISLAND, S. C.
Frogmore Congregation

The church here is comprised of only six members, and needs the assistance of others in a worthy cause. During August we are to have a gospel meeting, with Bro. John Green, of Savannah, Georgia as speaker. We ask that all who can please send financial assistance to insure the success of this effort. Help is urgently needed. Please pray for our success, and stand by us in this work. Address all correspondence to: Frogmore, P. O. Box 83, St. Helena Island, S. C.

ST. HELENA ISLAND continued:

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

On July 17th, Brother G. F Raines will preach his last sermon for the church in Valdese. They are moving to Muncie, Indiana. At the present time, we do not have a preacher. We welcome inquiries from anyone interested in moving here.

The CRUSADE FOR CHRIST, which Bro. A. T. Pate of Nashville, Tennessee conducted under a tent in Valdese on June 13-24 resulted in much good being accomplished. Fifty people from the surrounding area signed visitors' cards, most of them attending services of the church of Christ for the first time. This is the first meeting ever held in Valdese where any appreciable number of people who weren't members of the church attended. Members of surrounding congregations attended, and excellent interest was shown each night. Two young people were baptized into Christ They were Miss Louise Shoupe, of Drexel, and Nelson Burns of Valdese.

Our Vacation Bible School was held the first week of the meeting during the morning hours. We had a wonderful school, thanks to teachers from Nashville con-

VALDESE continued:

gregations. Although this was our first VBS, it was well attended. The first day, 47 were present; the last day, 79. Considering the fact that only 13 families comprise this congregation, this is definitely an exceptional record.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

In the past month, attendance increased some at every service. On Sunday, July 17th, there were 124 present for Bible Study, and 144 for the worship. Contribution on that day was $ 191.18.

As has been reported before, we have been trying for some months to purchase a piece of property from the School District of Greenville County. A few days ago they officially made the land available to us. It is located one block off the new Highway 29 South, very near Mills Mill. It is 3.8 acres in size. Plans are going forward to purchase this property, and the transaction should be completed in less than 30 days. We consider ourselves very fortunate in having the opportunity to obtain such a large tract of land only about one mile from our present location. We praise the Lord for blessing us so wonderfully. This property will cost a little over $ 6,000. We hope to hold a tent meeting on the lot sometime in August if the tent is available. After we have purchased the lot, we will be working fervently toward erecting a new church building as soon as possible. We covet your prayers on behalf of the work here.

BURLINGTON, N. C.
W. H. Johnson, Evangelist

We have just arrived here in Burlington this month, and are looking forward to a most pleasant and prosperous work with the Vaughn Road congregation.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton Elkins, Evangelist

We have rented a meetingplace on Main Street, upstairs over the local Dodge Dealer's show rooms. The work is progressing fine. We had one addition this past month, by identification, making our present membership number 12 people. We plan a series of meetings August 14-21 , with Brother Richard Taylor, of Florence, Alabama preaching.

We are making an effort to raise about $ 2500, to be able to build a new building. We now have two Bible studies each week, Tuesday and Friday nights. Our goal is a Bible class some place in the county each night of the week.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

A Vacation Bible School was conducted here June 20-24. Attendance averaged 111 and one day reached a high of 116. More than 50 of the children and 6 adults were from homes of non-members. Vacation Bible Schools present a most challenging opportunity to the churches in the Carolinas.

One was restored during the past month, and three obeyed the gospel. The conversion of these three, a mother, father, and one daughter all in the same family, was made possible as the result of the efforts and interest of

AUGUSTA ROAD continued:

relatives who live in Knoxville, Tennessee. Such Christians are "the light of the world."

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

My meeting in Texarkana, Texas, resulted in three responses. My next scheduled meeting is in Detroit, Michigan. Our work here grows stronger as we set a new record for contribution during June and a new record for Wednesday night service last week. This past Sunday, our attendance was 99. During July, so far, we have witnessed four additions. Twelve of our young people plan to go with me to Carolina Bible Camp this August.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Carl Hyder, Evangelist

Our meeting here at Red Oak church from June 12 through 18 in which Bro. Wayman Love was the speaker, was most edifying to the church. One of our visitors, who listened intently each night she was present, was baptized seven days later.

Our music school, also taught by Bro. Love at this time, was enjoyed by all.

Another meeting will begin here on August 7th, continuing through the 14th, with George A. Cooper, from Huntsville, Alabama preaching. Neighboring churches are very cordially invited.

RALEIGH, N. C. (Colored)
Jechonias Williams, Evangelist

The church in Raleigh is in need of support!! We are asking you as fellow citizens of the Kingdom of Christ to please support this work. We have sent out letters, but very few have responded to our appeal. I have travelled, and talked to many of my brethren, and have been turned away very nicely. Yet, I believe that God will open up the heart of somebody to give and support this work, and others of its kind throughout this area.

We have just completed a series of meetings, in which five were baptized into Christ.

Brother Fullerton and I will meet for the purpose of starting the work in Goldsboro in August.

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE FOR '61 NOW?

RALEIGH continued:

CONCERNING NEWS REPORTS

Quite a few new workers have moved into the Carolinas since our last editorial message, and perhaps a few comments concerning the purposes and ideals of these news columns are in order:

First, let me emphasize that we desire to hear from ALL the congregations in the Carolinas, as often as possible. Keep your successes, goals, and victories before the rest of us, to encourage and motivate us to do more.

Second, please keep all derogatory comments and uncomplimentary descriptions of others out of your reports. They will not be printed!

Third, keep your reports as brief as possible. Report more often, and say less each time. Tell us of conversions, restorations, contribution and attendance records, meeting reports, and other similar news items. Please do not try to "preach," other sections of our journal are designed for teaching and admonition. This section is devoted to news.

--- News Editor ---



HELP SCOTT

HAROLD SCOTT NEEDS 700 SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW!! HE IS MAKING A "GET ACQUAINTED" OFFER.

The CAROLINA MESSENGER for SEVEN months for only $1.00.

All NEW PREACHERS in the Carolinas can get the paper for ONE YEAR for only $1.00.

BUNDLES - Now you may order as low as 15 copies for 10¢ each. (less than 15 copies 15¢ each).

REMEMBER - YOU CAN HELP

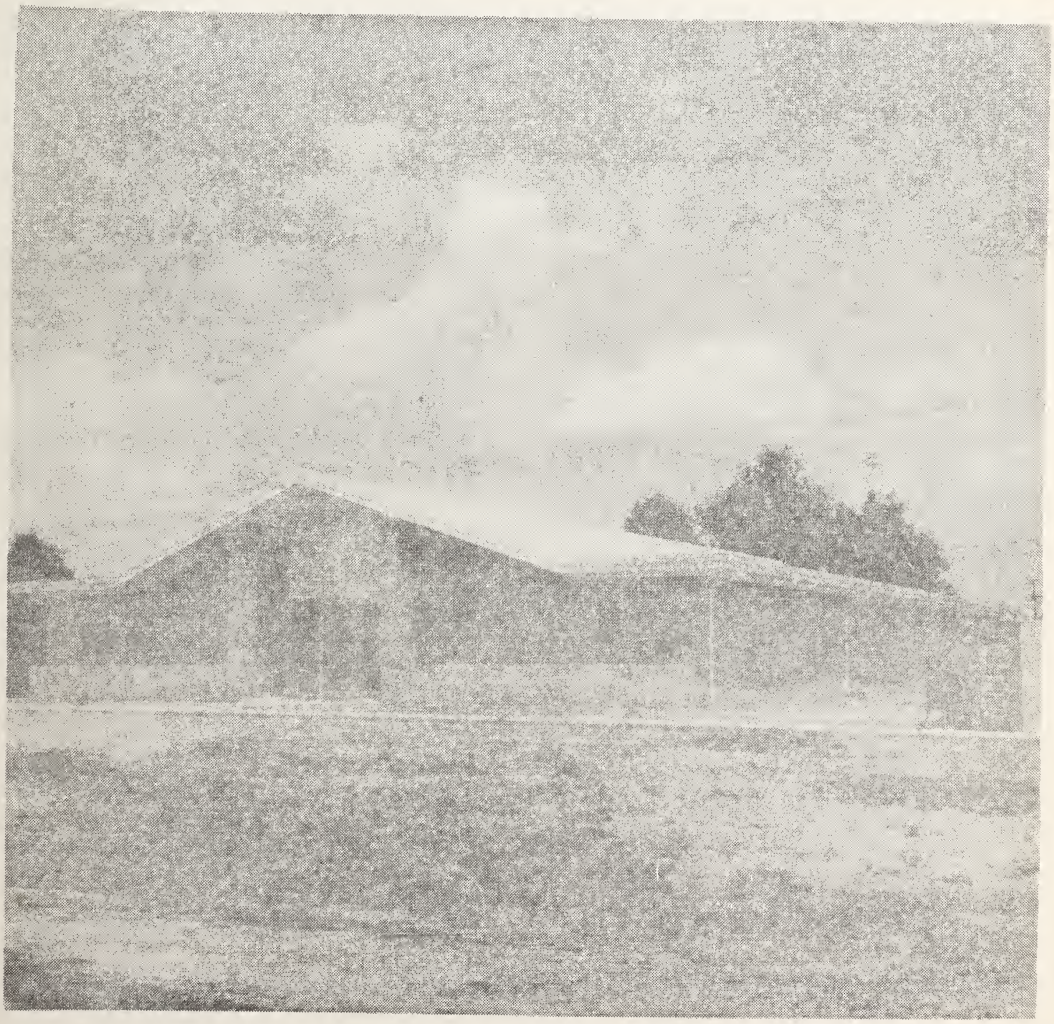
Harold Scott has tried to promote the paper by making you a good offer. Help him by subscribing and encouraging others to do so.



HEAR

THOMAS EAVES, Jasper, Tennessee, preach the WORD of GOD in a series of meetings at the NORTHEAST CHURCH OF CHRIST, Greenacre Road, GREENVILLE, S. C., August 21-28 at 7:45 P. M. YOU-ALL COME!!

Carolina MESSENGER of TRUTH



SEPTEMBER 1960

We Get Letters

"I appreciated your editorial in the July issue. This failure of ours to inform the people about the needs of the Carolinas stands out more and more. We have just had a preacher and his family to come and stay with us to teach in the VBS. They are interested in coming to N. C... They are appalled at the needs over here. We gospel preachers are not, I repeat: NOT building up the churches we already have to a real test of strength. You should have seen some of the correspondence I had and that he (my preacher-friend) had from some of the "self-supporting" churches! And they do not know what it means to hire a preacher, to pay his expenses for coming to "try out," to offer him a living wage. We who are here need to do something along these lines.

If every church over here would try to put out an attractive church bulletin and would mail it out at least every month or two to a widespread list it would help some. I had the same experience you had ... People assumed that the work in N. C. was as strong as in Tennessee and Texas. They were shocked to learn otherwise and when they did they almost immediately came to our aid.

I like your suggestions in the editorial. Now may I suggest something, too? I do not know what exactly is the editorial policy of the magazine, or whether you feel that the policy is bringing forth exactly the results aimed at. But I wonder if more emphasis might not profitably be put on building up the work in the Carolinas in and by and through the magazine? This could be done by having articles along the lines such as you mentioned; and as I have mentioned--on building up the local church, its Bible school, VBS, business meetings, advertising, local Carolina problems, etc. And could you feature on the front cover each month an attractive picture of some place in N. C. or S. C. that does not have a church, rather than scenes from Pa., Neb., etc. Wouldn't this help a lot?"

(It seems to me that some letters are self explanatory. Let us endeavor to make the Messenger more effective in building up the work in the Carolinas. - Editor).

LEAVE IT LIKE IT IS, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S RIGHT!

"I notice the punctuation has been changed in one place where I must argue the point of its correctness. Where I had the period inside the quotation marks it has been changed and placed outside the quotation marks. In support of this I give the following:

"The period is always placed inside the quotation marks. This is an invariable rule, and applies to typed material as well as to printed matter (The Secretary's Desk Book, page 22, Published by The John C. Winston Co.). Like the period, the comma is always placed inside quotation marks. This is an invariable rule" (ibid., page 23). The semicolon should be placed outside quotation marks" (ibid., page 27).

(see page 5)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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CATHOLICISM AND AMERICAN FREEDOM - Part I

Dangerous Loyalties

O. P. Baird
Columbia, S. C.

In November, for the second time in the history of our nation, the people of America will be given an opportunity to vote for a Roman Catholic for president of the United States. That brings us face to face immediately with the question of whether or not our American freedom would be endangered by having a Roman Catholic for president.

This is not a question of whether or not the present Democratic presidential candidate is a loyal American. It is a question of whether or not a person who fully accepts the Roman Catholic doctrines would have a loyalty above his loyalty to America that might cause him to act against the principles underlying our American freedoms. A person who has such a loyalty should not be entrusted with governmental power in America whether that loyalty is a result of his religion or something else. So this issue is not a religious one after all but a political one.

The Christian's Supreme Loyalty

The Christian's supreme loyalty is to Christ. He is loyal to Christ above parents, country or anything else. Such a loyalty to Christ will make a man a better father, merchant, teacher or president of our country. When a person gives supreme loyalty to Christ all of his actions must be in harmony with Christ's authority. When he gives supreme loyalty to some human authority he is disqualified for any action that is not in harmony with that human authority.

The True Roman Catholic's Supreme Loyalty.

Of course, it is understood that Catholics regard themselves Christians just as Protestants do. Therefore, they recognize the necessity of giving supreme loyalty to Christ. If a person decided to be loyal to Christ but is persuaded that the authority of Christ is vested in a man or in an office held by a man, what will be his attitude? He will necessarily believe that the only way he can be loyal to Christ is to be loyal to the authoritative proclamations of the man occupying that office as Christ's representative. That is the position a Roman Catholic is in who understands the doctrines of his church and is loyal to them. Roman Catholicism teaches that "the Pope is the successor of Peter in the See of Rome, the vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, and the visible head of the Church" (Catechism of Pius X, as quoted in Webster's New International Dictionary, Edition of 1950, Article--"pope"). According to the same dictionary, a vicar is, "A substitute in office; a deputy or vicegerent..." The same dictionary defines a vicegerent as, "An officer deputed by a superior, as a monarch, or by proper authority, to exercise the powers of another." Then the vicar of Jesus Christ on earth would be one with the authority to exercise the powers of Christ on earth.

O. C. Lambert, in Rumblings from Rome, gives the following quotation: "But the supreme teacher in the Church is the Roman Pontiff. Union of mind, therefore, requires together with a perfect accord in the one faith, complete submission and obedience of will to the Church and to the Roman Pontiff as to God Himself." (Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII, 193.) Leo died in 1903.

A person who does not believe the Roman Catholic doctrines can easily see the danger in being governed by one who accepts human authority as if it were the voice of God. Especially is this true when the one exercising that human authority is the ruler of a foreign state. The Pope is not only the head of a church but is also ruler of the Vatican State. Though it is a small state its ruler exercises great influence in other governments. The Pope in known

(see page 6)

REPENT of REPENTING?

James McDonald, Jr.
Union, S. Carolina

Without doubt, one of the saddest, if not the most mournful, conditions in the church of our Lord today is the number of those who have become the children of God, Christians, and have gone back to their former love of the world. They have repented of repenting and of obeying the Gospel.

The Apostle Peter has spoken concerning such in II Peter 2:20. "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning." Peter here paints the sad picture of some who repented and obtained forgiveness--and then repented of having repented, in that they returned to the same sordid pattern of behavior. He also warns that the "latter end" is worse than if they had not obeyed the gospel.

The faithless child of God might be compared to the child of a loving parent, who sacrifices much to raise his offspring to have all of the blessings life can offer, only to have the ungrateful child to inflict great pain upon the parent by wayward and preverse living. As the parent continues to grieve, the ingrate child adds insult to injury by one degenerate act after another. Should the parent, in the spirit of love and forgiveness, approach the dissipated youth in an effort to reason with him, he receives only abuse and insult for his effort. Certainly, if our earthly parents feel such pain over our faithlessness, how much more does God, Our Heavenly Father, suffer when one of His redeemed drift back into the world and into sin.

Those guilty of the sin of faithlessness, no doubt, think that they are all right or as good as the next or else they would do something about their condition. But the longer one puts off being restored to God, the more difficult it becomes. For the deceitfulness of sin has a way of covering up the ugliness of sin. The longer one remains unfaithful to God, the further he gets from God. He is like the child who thinks he is getting so much pleasure from the forbidden, that he persuades himself that he will not mind the sure coming punishment. When the sure coming punishment of God comes, the unfaithful Christian will have learned too late that sin after all was not worthwhile.

Too, the longer one remains unfaithful to God, the more pleasure he believes he finds in the things of the world than the things of God. Sin, as it increases, becomes the more deceitful. The Unfaithful, for instance, looks upon attendance to the church worship services as something for the very young or the old and dying but not for himself. He wants to have a "good time." He never seems to realize the value of association with Christians. He would much rather associate with men and women of the world as they have more in common with one another. The saddest part is that the unfaithful Christian soon reaches the place where he has nothing in common with the Lord. His soul is lost!

REMEMBER - "MESSENGER" MEETING

Please don't forget the meeting which is planned in Florence, S. C., Tuesday, September 13.

Bill Jackson writes, "Reservations have been made for us, Sept. 13th., 1:00 P. M. at the Colony Restaurant, two miles south of Florence on joint highways 301 and 52. We have plenty of parking, a private room and there is no demand for use of the room for the rest of the afternoon."

We hope to see you in Florence.

COVER PHOTO

New building in Union, S. C. which was used for the first time for Sunday services July 24. Auditorium seats 244.

Has the KINGDOM Come?

J. R. Avants
Easley, S. C.

In Daniel, chapter 2, we find King Nebuchadnezzar much distressed over his dream. He could find no one who could interpret this dream until at last some one told him of a young Hebrew captive, Daniel. The king sent for Daniel, who, by the help of God, was able to tell the king what the dream was as well as the interpretation thereof. In Dan. 2:36-44, Daniel enumerates four kingdoms each inferior to the other. These are represented by the great image which the king saw in his dream. In verse 38 Daniel stated that the king of Babylon was the head of gold. This kingdom lasted from about 615 BC to 530 BC. The breast and arms of silver were symbolic of the Medo-Persian kingdom which lasted until 300 BC. The Macedonian kingdom was in power from 300 BC to 50 BC. The fourth kingdom was the Roman which, though weak and divided lasted from 50 BC to 800 AD. Daniel stated in verse 44 that in the days of these kings (not after the days of these kings) the God of Heaven would set up a kingdom which was greater than all these and would never be destroyed.

The date on which this kingdom was established can be determined closer than this as we read in Matt. 3:1-2. It was about 30 AD that John and Jesus came preaching, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." In Col. 1:13 we read that the Colossians had been translated "into the kingdom of his dear son." So we have narrowed down to about 30 years the time the kingdom was established for it must have happened between the time the Lord said he would establish a kingdom and the time Paul wrote to the Colossians. Further proof of the establishment of the kingdom may be found in Lk. 24:49, Mk. 9:1, Acts 2:1-4 and Lk. 9:1.

Let us consider here what is required to constitute a kingdom. (1) The old or opposing law must be removed. It was nailed to the cross. (Col. 2:14). (2) The new king must be vested with power. Jesus was given all power both in heaven and on earth. (Matt. 28:18). (3) This new kingdom must have citizens. The disciples were the citizens of this kingdom.

In Acts, chapter one, we have the disciples waiting for the power to come. (v. 8). Since Jesus had promised that the kingdom would come with power we can narrow the time of the establishment of the kingdom from 1350 years to 30 and now to one day. Hence, we see that the God of Heaven set up a kingdom on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Christ who is now sitting on his throne. In Dan. 7:13, 14 we read that he must reign until he hath put all enemies under his feet. Then cometh the end of time and the Son will return the reign to the Father and be subject to him.

LETTERS (cont'd from page 2)

"Of course, the question mark and the exclamation mark would be placed sometimes inside and sometimes outside the quotation marks, depending upon whether or not they are actually parts of the quotation."

(We confess. We did it and we were wrong. Very much do we appreciate such interest as was manifested in this letter. -Editor)

"You are to be commended for the improvement in the publication. I have especially enjoyed Jim Woodroof's articles. Best wishes for the future of the church in the Carolinas."

"We love the little paper."
(Thanks - Editor)

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW! ! !

TEEN TOPICS

DANGEROUS LOYALTIES (cont'd)

to take an active interest in the politics of the world. He sends diplomats, called nuncios, to most of the prominent nations of the world and receives ambassadors from those nations, just as any other state. Carroll Ellis, in Gospel Advocate, issue of July 28, 1960, says that in the official newspaper of the Vatican, Observatore Romano, issue of May, 1960, the following statement was made: "The church has full power of jurisdiction over all the faithful to guide them on the plain of ideas and action. The church has the duty and the right to intervene even in the political field. A Catholic can never prescind (detach himself) from the teachings and directives of the church. In every section of his activity he must inspire his private and public conduct by the laws, orientation, and instruction of the Hierarchy."

Sometimes the explanation is made that the Pope exercises his authority over his millions of subjects in many nations only in the realm of faith and morals. We shall consider this "explanation" in the next article of this series.

TEEN TOPICS (cont'd)

more vigilant the Christian must be. Especially is this true of one of the sins warned against by Paul. This is the sin of lasciviousness. So subtle is this sin that far too many of us do not even know what it is. How can we guard against a sin when we don't know what it is or how to detect it?

I. What Is Lasciviousness?

No one can succeed in the battle against lasciviousness until he has a scriptural answer to this question. The word, lasciviousness, is found in the following scriptures: Mk. 7:20-23; II Cor. 12:21; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 4:19; I Pet. 4:3; II Pet. 2:2, 7, 18 and Jude 4. The plural form of the same Greek word occurs in Romans 13:13 but has been translated into English

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James Woodroof
Columbia, S. C.

(The following article has been selected because of its exceptional merit, and because it deals with such a common problem. Young People, read it carefully, and give it serious consideration. I know of nothing more important to you at this time of life. - JW).

OUR STRUGGLE WITH THE FLESH

By: John Crow

Now, as much as ever before, Christians need to awake. The great blight of religion today is the indifferent attitude taken toward sins of the flesh. This disease is too frequently evidenced among Christians. If we who are members of the Lord's church do not take a firm stand on morality, we cannot expect the world to be any better.

Our struggle with the flesh is constant. It does not end at baptism. Paul realized this when he said, "But I buffet my body, and bring it into bondage: lest by any means, after that I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected." This was stated by Paul long after he was baptized to wash away his sins. (Acts 22:16) If such buffeting was necessary for Paul, how can we sruvive the struggle against the flesh with any less effort.

The flesh and the Spirit are enemies. They are "contrary the one to the other; that ye may not do the things that ye would." (Gal. 5:17). That the Christian might ever be on guard against the works of the flesh, Paul gives a rather lengthy list and then to make it all-inclusive he adds the phrase - "and such like." NO Christian can afford to be indifferent to those things which excite the passions and lusts of the flesh.

Although the Bible does not distinguish between so-called "big sins" and "little sins," some sins are more dangerous than others because of their subtle nature. The more deceptive a sin may be, the

(see col. one)

TEEN TOPICS (cont'd)

as "wantonness." The serious student will read these passages carefully.

The Greek word from which the English word is translated is aselgeia. It is defined as follows by Thayer in his lexicon: "...unbridled lust, excess, licentiousness, lasciviousness, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, insolence: ...plural, 'wanton (acts or) manners, as unchaste handling of males and females, etc.' (Fritzsche), Rom. 13:13." This definition resulted from the examination of the way the word is used in many Greek texts.

The International Critical Commentary on Galations by Burton states that lasciviousness is "unrestrained, but not necessarily public." Thus, one may be guilty of lasciviousness in the privacy of his own mind.

Jesus truly characterized lasciviousness as a sin of the heart. Although it is not fornication it can possibly lead to the act itself if the opportunity is presented under the right conditions.

One who abhors sin cannot be guilty of lasciviousness because the lascivious heart delights and takes pleasure in lust and even encourages it without any feeling of shame or remorse.

The reason that lasciviousness is so dangerous is because it is often unrecognizable outwardly until it has led to the overt act. But whether the act itself is ever committed, the thought and desire is a sin in that it is lascivious. Whether anyone else knows about it or not, the sin is still there. Desires which are fulfilled in marriages are lawful except where they are carried to excess and warp the Christian personality. All such desires which are delighted in outside the marriage relationship are lascivious. Thus, Paul states in I Cor. 7:9 that "it is better to marry than to burn." But "marriage is honourable in all and the bed undefiled." (Heb. 13:4).

II. Is Lasciviousness A Sin Of The Modern World?

Now, more than ever before, the world is filled with lasciviousness. The modern mind thrives on such moral filth. The Christian is apt to be washed into the same gutter if he is not careful. Modern means of communication have but increased this drive to lasciviousness.

However, we must remember that lasciviousness itself is not a new sin. Even the ancient literature of Greece and Rome described much lasciviousness of that day. Ovid described the drunken Silenus as one whose evil mind had survived his physical strength and kept alive his base desires although old age had destroyed his power of gratfication.

Paul corroborates this description of the Gentile world in Eph. 4:17-19, when he said they labored in all uncleanness with greediness. Their evil desire exceeded time, place, and opportunity.

Thus, the young or unmarried are not the only ones troubled by lasciviousness. All are subject to its poisonous fangs. Whereever Paul wrote or preached he warned against it. Do we need the warning any less?

III. Forms of Lasciviousness.

According to the definition, not just the unlawful, unrestrained desire is sinful, but the things causing such desire is lascivious and thus sinful. The Bible Encyclopedia, Vol. II states: "That which excites disgust, unbridled lust, licentiousness, wantonness. It includes everything tending to promote or fulfill fleshly lusts. . ." Thayer also said, "wanton (acts or) manners, as filthy words, indecent bodily movements, unchaste handlings of males and females, etc."

Therefore, whatever else may be wrong with dancing, it stands condemned as lasciviousness. Even if it never leads to the physical act of fornication, it arouses desires that cannot be fulfilled outside of marriage. The female partner often maintains that it arouses no such evil desires in her. If this is true, she is still guilty

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TEEN TOPICS (cont'd)

of lasciviousness for engaging in an act that arouses such desires in her male partner.

True enough, one does not have to engage in the dance to arouse such lasciviousness. So-called "church parties" have offered games which are just as lascivious. This does not excuse the dance. Both are wrong. The same thing is true of "promiscous petting"; it doesn't have to culminate in fornication to be lascivious or sinful.

"Lewd pictures" are lascivious in much the same way. Why display such pictures on calenders in your home, office, and business? Even if they don't excite you to lasciviousness (which is doubtful) they might excite a visitor and then you too will be guilty for displaying them, to say nothing of your bad influence and example.

Movies and television shows present sex in such a way as to be lascivious. The Christian must ever be careful to guard against forms of lasciviousness that may creep into his mind subtly. Some modern best-seliers are equally as bad as the movies that picture them.

Filthy jokes, conversations and suggestive stories are lascivious. Christian ladies will not divert their gatherings into such lascivious talk.

Christians do not participate in such things as public mixed swimming. Both sexes are almost naked before one another. To the extent that such excites lust, both sexes are guilty of lasciviousness.

Christian women do not wear shorts and other such dress that would cause a lascivious look. Neither do they wear their clothes in such a way or engage in bodily movements that would excite a lascivious look. It is true that some minds are so steeped in lasciviousness that they see evil in almost any act, dress, or movement. But this does not justify a woman intentionally causing a lascivious thought.

But none of these things may be present and yet one can imagine mental pictures to suit his fancy. Such is also lascivious.

It is impossible to know how wide-spread is the sin of lasciviousness. But if the outward forms are any indication of the inner condition of hearts, very few of us have escaped its contamination.

IV. How Can We Avoid Lasciviousness?

An ancient proverb says, "You can't keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from building nests in your hair." It is true that evil thoughts may flash through our mind from time to time. We may not be able to prevent them. But we can keep evil thoughts from lodging in our mind and dwelling there.

Remember, one may be tempted and not sin. When one says in his heart, "I must not, I will not have such a thought. I abhor this sinful desire and I will not give way to it," he has not sinned.

V. What Is The Cure?

(1). There can be no cure for lasciviousness without the desire to be pure. Young people must be instructed and encouraged to be pure by parents that are pure. Topics of this nature can best be taught at home.

(2) The many forms of lasciviousness such as those mentioned above must be avoided. One cannot put out the fire while pouring gasoline on the blaze. Neither can one curb lasciviousness while engaging in dancing, petting, etc. There are some situations in which the only thing to do is to "flee" as Paul told Timothy.

(3) Fill the mind with good thoughts and there will not be room for lascivious thoughts. (Phil. 4:8).

(4) "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." (Prov. 4:23). It was not impossible to control the heart back in that day. If it were impossible, God would not have commanded it. It should not be any more difficult for us who have the N. T. light of Jesus' teaching.

(5) It should encourage us to flee lasciviousness when we know that God will bring every secret thing into judgment, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

"Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." The person with a lascivious mind will find no place in heaven.

(adapted from the "Prairie Proclaimer")

News

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

In the past month we have had two of our young people to obey the gospel. Attendance on August 7th set a new record for the year for the morning service. There were 136 present for Bible Study and 162 for the worship.

The church here has purchased the property which was described in last month's report. The price paid for it was $6,141.35. We are convinced that the purchase of this lot will be a step forward in our efforts to reach more people in this city with the gospel of Christ. Plans are already made to hold a gospel meeting in a tent on this property September 4 - 11. Services will be nightly at 7:45. We also plan to have a singing in the tent on Saturday night, September 3rd at 7:45. Everyone is invited to attend these services. The lot is located one block off the new 29 highway south on Edgewood Drive in the Mills Mill area.

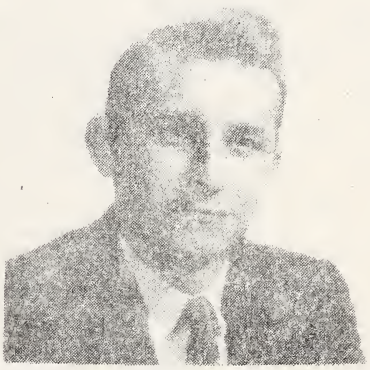
STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad St. Congregation
Harold L. Scott, Evangelist

We had our Vacation Bible School in the evening this year. As a whole, we were very well pleased with this arrangement. Average attendance was 131. The high attendance was on Friday, when 143 were present. The average adult attendance was 35. Higher attendance was in the upper age groups -- teen-age, intermediates, and junior classes. Twelve young people are scheduled to go to Carolina Bible Camp from the congregation here this year. During the month of July, attendance was higher than during the preceding two years. It has been an active summer for us here in the work of the Lord.

STATESVILLE continued:

DUNCAN, S. C.
Paul Rodgers, Reporting

Bro. John Rudolph Senn, a native of Columbia, S.C., will begin full-time work here September 18th.



Bro. Senn finished David Lipscomb College in 1958. He has taught at Georgia Christian Institute, at Valdosta, for three years. He has worked with congregations at Monticello, Florida, Corio, Georgia and Cave City Kentucky. Bro. Senn was instrumental in establishing a work at Homerville, Georgia. He is married to the former Miss May Ann Cope. They have one son, Jerry Don.

Seven of the brethren here will speak on Sundays until Bro. Senn arrives. The church here is sending a speaker to Shelby, N. C. on the second Sunday of each month. Word has been received that Bro. Parker and his family, who formerly worked with us here, are settled in their new work in Trenton, Georgia.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray D. Fullerton, Evangelist

The church here conducted a gospel meeting July 24-29, and a Vacation Bible School in conjunction with it. Johnny Ramsey, of Fort Worth, Texas was the speaker. Five baptisms resulted. New record attendances were set July 24 with 135 in Bible classes and 154 in morning worship. Night attendance averaged 107. Bro. Ramsey's congregation, Meadowbrook, also made it possible for us to have him on the air daily during the meeting.

VBS attendance and enthusiasm far exceeded our estimates and plans. Attendance for the five days averaged 159, with 173 the record. We had to borrow additional equipment from Rocky Mt. and Kinston, and had to divide one of the classes. Classes were offered from cradle roll through adults. In addition to Brother Ramsey, guest teachers included Bro. and Sis. Joe Costilow from Dayton, Texas, where he preaches. While here, Bro. Costilow preached at Jacksonville and at Rocky Mount, N. C., and we are hopeful he will locate in the Carolinas.

Since the meeting, a new attendance mark, 155, was reached. One more has been baptized and two have placed membership.

This church was three years old on August 11. We began with nine or less members. We now have 76, and attendance at worship averages near 120.

GASTONIA, N. C.
504 South Broad St.
Bobby G. Reynolds, Evangelist

We had our seventh baptism of the year on August 7th. We also gave a record contribution of $504.32 on July 24. Our baptistry was used to baptize a young man from Shelby, N. C. on August 14th. He is a member of the congregation in Shelby.

GASTONIA continued:

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

On August 1st, Bro. Bill G. Smith moved to Valdese to begin his duties as regular minister for the church here. He came to Valdese from the Buncombe Road congregation in Greenville, S.C. His wife, Kay, is the former Kay Bolt, of Pendleton, S. C. They have one daughter, Kimberly, age one.

As a welcome to the new minister and his family, the church held a picnic style dinner on the lawn of the preacher's home following the morning worship service Sunday, August 7th. The Hickory church worshipped with us at the evening service.

Bro. M. E. Burns of Valdese preached at the Sunday and Wednesday evening services here, in the absence of Bro. Smith, who was away at the Carolina Bible Camp.

Plans are being formulated by Bro. Smith, and Bro. Clay Henderson, from Hickory, to organize a young people's chorus. They plan to sing in homes for the aged, rest homes, or any place where vocal music will be enjoyed. The group met for the first time at the home of Bro. and Sis. Worth Burns, where they enjoyed a meal of hamburgers and ice cream.

An extensive visitation program has been started by Brother Smith. The thirty-seven families who signed visitors' cards at our recent tent meeting will be contacted. Several members are mailing tracts to these families

VALDESE continued:

and others whom we know, with a schedule of the services of the church. Bro. A. T. Pate, who spoke in our recent meeting here left these tracts for our use.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warner's Chapel Congregation
W. J. Perkins, Evangelist

We began work with the second oldest congregation in the Carolinas on Sunday, August 7th. Although a number of members were lost to the newer congregations, more than 100 remain. We are sending financial assistance to Albemarle, Ashboro, and Aberdeen in our state, as well as France, various orphan's homes, and the Herald of Truth. Bro. Guy N. Woods held a fine meeting here recently. We begin a new radio program soon over WTOB, 1380 kc, in Winston-Salem.

Bro. Darrell E. Beard, of Aberdeen, N. C., still needs more support for his work. This congregation is helping in that effort, and will be glad to answer any inquiries.

We are happy to be in the Carolinas, and desire to be of help in any way we can. Our new number is RO 6-6078. Please feel free to call on us at any time.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

So far in August, one fine Christian family has identified itself with the Plaza congregation. Another precious soul has been baptized into Christ and we have had the pleasure of fellowship with many visitors recently. The only note of sadness is our loss of the Henry Reynoldses in one month. Bro. Reynolds has

CHARLOTTE continued:

been a very capable elder, hard working member, and a faithful Christian friend here for over three years. He will be sorely missed, along with his good wife and two fine sons. However, our loss is the Raleigh congregation's gain.

Many of our members and many of our children are working and relaxing at the Carolina Bible Camp on the Catawba River. Many fine evangelists have spoken at the Plaza congregation recently. Our Wednesday evening Bible study is running over 100 in attendance, and our Sunday morning service is close to 200. We are hoping to close the gap in the attendance for these services.

TRYON, N. C.
Mrs. E. H. Haynes, Jr. Reporting

The church here had a very successful meeting in July, with Bro. Jim Woodroof, and Bro. T.A. Isaacs as speakers. There were no responses to the invitation, but we believe much good was accomplished. Both the church and outsiders were admonished.

Bro. William M. Deuell is our new minister at Tryon. Many improvements have been made in the building, new classes have been organized and more teachers have been added. Bro. Chester Womack continues to work with us. He has recently organized a Sunday morning and Wednesday night teen age Bible class that shows great promise. We hope to resume our Ladies Bible Class and our radio broadcast very soon.

We are encouraged by the progress the church has made.

REMEMBER!
NEWS DEADLINE ---- 20th OF EVERY MONTH!

TRENTON, GEORGIA
Milton S. Parker, Evangelist

On August 7th I concluded two years of very pleasant work with the church at Duncan, S. C. No finer group of Christians may be found anywhere. It was so much pleasure to work with their fine elders, Bro. Paul Rodgers, and Bro. J. W. DeYoung. Our lives were made richer and fuller by having been with them in the Lord's work. Our memories of the work, and the good people of the Duncan congregation, will always be pleasant ones.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Carl Hyder, Evangelist
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporting

Bro. George A. Cooper closed a very successful gospel meeting here on August 14th in which two were baptized into Christ. We are grateful to Bro. Cooper for the fine work he did while he was with us.

Remember to hear Bro. Hyder on Radio Station WMMH, 1460 kc, each Saturday at 11:45 a. m.

EASLEY, S. C.
William Chastain, Reporting

On July 30, 1960 a group of Christians met at the home of Bro. John Avants, on Main Street in Easley, S. C., to organize a new congregation in this city. Plans were made to meet on the following Saturday for the first service. The church is meeting in an apartment in Bro. Avants' home. At the present, preachers from surrounding congregations are speaking for us. Our services are on Sunday afternoons. Bible Study is at 2:00 p. m. and worship is at 3:00 p. m.

On Sunday, August 7th, Bro. B. E. Davis from Seneca, was the guest speaker. There were 29 present for Bible study, and 48 present for worship. At the conclusion of the sermon, one was restored and one was baptized. On Sunday, August 14, we had 35 in attendance for both the Bible study and worship. There was one restoration.

We have unlimited possibilities here. We ask Christians everywhere to pray for us as we labor in this new vineyard.

SENECA, S. C.
B. Edward Davis, Evangelist

A series of circumstances has cut our membership in Seneca almost in half in recent weeks. We lost several families to the new church in Easley, and during the last week in August, two more of our families moved away. Seneca has always had a transient membership, due to the proximity of Clemson College, and we are hoping to build our membership back up with the beginning of the new school year.

We commend the brethren who have had the courage and zeal to begin the new work in Easley. A congregation has been needed in that city for years, and we rejoice that the cause of Christ has now been planted there. The Seneca church has loaned chairs and song books for their use and furnishes a speaker once each month. Our prayer is that this new work may prosper and grow and mean much to the cause in this area.

DON'T FORGET ...

Send in your reports to us each month, so that your good news can encourage and strengthen others in the kingdom!

OCTOBER 1960

Carolina Messenger of Truth

Faith

Hope

Love

THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE

As Strong as Tenn. or Texas

Ray Fullerton
Goldsboro, N. C.

Are you under the impression that the church in North Carolina is "as strong as it is in Tennessee or in Texas?" This writer met many two years ago and still hears from some who mistakenly think this is true. In Tennessee there are 3, 500,000 people, but nearly 1,400 churches of Christ. In Texas, with about 7,500, 000, there are probably 2,000 churches. NORTH CAROLINA has 4,500,000 population (1,000,000 more than Tennessee) but only 80 --- YES, EIGHTY --- churches of Christ!

Yet Alexander and Thomas Campbell preached here and James O'Kelly, who preceded the Campbells by twenty-five years or so, began his part of the Restoration Movement about seventy-five miles from Goldsboro! This writer recently saw and took the picture of a church building bearing this inscription: "OLD FORD CHURCH OF CHRIST, ESTABLISHED 1846!"

Yet nearly everyone is here except the true church of the New Testament. There is the digressive, liberal (we mean LIBERAL) "Christian Church" ("Disciples"); there is the conservative Christian Church; there are several different kinds of "instrumental Churches of Christ" which are not like us, either; the mormons are erecting at this moment a building to cost about $200,000 in its first completed stage; and everyone else from the Jews through ten different brands of Baptists are here.

But not the church; not the gospel of Christ.

Oh, we are making wonderful headway and the field here is as receptive as you will find nearly anywhere. But we have neglected the Carolinas despite that they are among the oldest States in the Union.

There are 100 counties in North Carolina, The Old North State.

In fifty-five (55) of these counties there is not a church of Christ!

Within sixty or seventy-five miles of Goldsboro are these towns with NO CHURCH: Greenville, college town, pop., 25,000; Washington, 15,000; Nashville, 8,000; Clinton, 10,000; Smithfield, 12, 000; Warsaw; Elizabeth City (further out to the coast), pop., 23,000; Morehead City... And on and on we could go.

Why don't you plan to come and establish the church in one of these towns, or to send a man to do it for you, and you to support him and the work?

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Edward Davis, News Editor
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Church & State

Catholicism and American Freedom - Part II

O. P. Baird
Columbia, S. C.

In the first article of this series it was pointed out that a true Roman Catholic believes that the way to be loyal to Christ is to be loyal to the authoritative voice of the Roman Catholic Church, the Pope. The purpose of these articles is to show that it would be a threat to our American freedom for our president to have such a loyalty.

Sometimes the explanation is made that the Pope exercises his authority only in the realm of faith and morals. That explanation will not satisfy any one if he will simply take a look at history, modern as well as medieval, and see what the activity of the Pope and the Catholic Church has been both in international affairs and the internal affairs of nations. Every one acquainted with modern history knows of the concordat with Hitler, Mussolini and Franco. Franco was the only one of the three who was able to maintain his power. A concordat is an agreement made by the Pope with a ruler or government concerning the regulation of ecclesiastical matters. Look at Franco's Spain and see what the aims of the Pope are in such a concordat. In Spain the people do not have religious freedom as we conceive of it and as it is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. A convincing example of how different the aims of the Roman Church are from the principles underlying our American Constitution!

In the Roman Catholic concept there are two swords. The church wields one and the secular power the other. This might be stated in such a way as to make it appear to support separation of church and state, but we shall see that it does not. In Catholicism Against Itself, O. C. Lambert gives the following quotation: "(1) Under the control of the Church are two swords, that is two powers...the spiritual and the secular... (2) Both swords are in the power of the Church; the spiritual is wielded in the Church by the hand of the clergy; the secular is to be employed for the Church by the hand of the civil authority, but under the direction of the spiritual power. (3) The one sword must be subordinate to the other: the earthly power must submit to the spiritual authority, as this has precedence of the secular on account of its greatness and sublimity; for the spiritual power has the right to establish and guide the secular power, and also to judge it when it does not act rightly" (Catholic Encyclopedia, XV, 126).

This is the Roman Catholic theory of the relationship of church and state. It is their contention that the civil power must be exercised for the church. To them a civil power is not acting rightly unless it is being exercised in the interest of the Roman Catholic Church. When it acts against the interests of the Roman Catholic Church they believe it is right to disobey it. "But if the laws of the state are manifestly at variance with the divine law, containing enactments hurtful to the Church, or conveying injunctions adverse to the duties imposed by religion, or if they violate in the person of the supreme Pontiff the authority of Jesus Christ, then truly, to resist becomes a positive duty, to obey, a crime" (Leo XIII, Great Encyclical Letters, 185, as quoted in Rumblings from Rome by O. C. Lambert). In the next article we shall notice some of the ways in which the Roman Church considers our constitution and the freedoms we enjoy hurtful to the Church. If we had a Catholic president it would be his religious duty to disobey and oppose those democratic principles set forth in the constitution.

Some say there is no danger in having a Roman Catholic president because he must take an oath to support the constitution. We are not saying that any particular Catholic president would not be true to his presidential oath. We do not know how

(see page 5)

Mental-image Idolatry

Noyles E. Sewell
Wilmington, N. C.

The worship of heathen idols was an ever-present temptation to the children of Israel, lately liberated from Egyptian bondage. It is not strange that the first of the commandments given to Moses on Sinai legislates against the sin of idolatry. It, nevertheless, remained a common sin throughout the Mosaic dispensation. Even after the establishment of the Lord's church, it continued to be necessary to warn God's people against the recurring sin of idol worship. Paul writes, "... flee from idolatry," (I Cor. 10:14), and John echoes, "...keep yourselves from idols." (I John 5:21).

Perhaps the most common conception is that it consists of bowing down in worship before an ugly image made of wood or stone, and since this form of idolatry is rarely heard of today, many have dropped their guard against this sin. We need to recognize that idolatry remains a common sin, even today! Contemporary idolatry consists not in the worship of a material image, but rather in the worship of a mental image, to which is given the name of Jehovah. Multitudes have set up an idol in their own thoughts. They have created unto themselves a god after their own likeness. This false view of God's character and feelings is an old error. God spoke through David to say, "Thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself." (Ps. 50:21). In the same way many today are guilty of mental-image idolatry. They worship an image which they have fashioned with their own mind, a god that is far different from Jehovah, the true and living God.

I. The God of the Bible is an all-seeing and ever present God. No matter where one may go he cannot escape from the presence of God nor hide from His surveillance. (Ps. 139). Herein lies the secret of purity in life, and the elevation of aim and thought-we are ever in the presence of God. Many, however, think of their god as if he were a man, limited in vision and bound to one locality. Their god, therefore, is a false god, and they are guilty of mental-image idolatry.

II. Jehovah is all-wise and all-knowing. He cannot be mocked. (Gal. 6:7). The mental-image idolater knows only the god of his own mental creation, a god after his own image, a god that can be deceived. Such a god is a false god, an idol, and not the God of the Bible. Ananias and Saphira made this fatal mistake. (Acts 5). Be assured that Jehovah cannot be deceived. No thought, word or deed can be concealed from Him, "but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do." (Heb. 4:13b).

III. The true and living God is Holy. He hates sin in every form and deems every servant of sin as being worthy of eternal condemnation. On the contrary, the mental-image idol of millions has no more hatred of sin than the average man. This counterfeit god looks upon murder, theft and adultery as being sin, and thinks of lying, cursing and gossipping as being wrong but covetousenss, envy, pride and hatred are winked at, and such religious sins as the worship of Mary, infant baptism, and instrumental music in worship are never questioned. Man is prone to separate sin into catagories of black, brown, grey and white, but in the sight of the Holy and righteous God of heaven sin is sin, whether in thought, word or deed, whether primarily against God, self or others, whether sins of omission, commission or substitution. Jehovah hates every sin. (Ps. 119:104). He is utterly disgusted with the indifferent, lazy, lukewarm church member who steals the Lord's Day for his own use. His wrath is kindled against the professed Christian who continually embezzles that portion of his income that should be contributed on the first day of the week. Christian, if

(see page 5)

CHURCH AND STATE (cont'd)
true he would be to his religious obligations. However, the danger of electing a Catholic president is further indicated by the following quotations given by O. C. Lambert in Catholicism Against Itself, page 73: "There is a difference between a religious and a legal oath... If he pronounces a formula that expresses an oath, without the intention of swearing, then he has sworn nothing" (Explanation of Catholic Morals, 129). "The truth we proclaim under oath is relative and not absolute" (Explanation of Catholic Morals, 130).

A 1961 DIRECTORY

There seems to be sufficient interest to go ahead with the plans to publish a 1961 directory of churches of Christ in the Carolinas. Bill G. Smith, Valdese, N. C., who compiled the 1959 edition, has agreed to do so for the new one. This is quite a task so your FULLEST cooperation is requested. Certainly we want this edition to be as complete as possible.

Bill writes, "We will start mailing (the questionaires) around the first of Oct." We have little idea of how many to print. Bill also suggests, "Have the preachers to announce in the congregations (about the last of Nov.) about the new directory and get a list of the people who want one. Then send in the total number needed. This way you can know more about how many to print before you go to press."

If you have suggestions concerning the new directory, please send them to: Bill G. Smith, Box 72, Valdese, N. C. It has already been suggested that we use it to "stress the need for more evangelistic work in the Carolinas." Appropriate space will be devoted to this.

PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN YOU MOVE
If you know of any subscriber who is not receiving the paper, let us know. Mail your communication to "Messenger," P. O. Box 5423, Sta. B, Greenville, S. C.

MENTAL-IMAGE IDOLATRY (cont'd)
you think you can get away with these things, your conception of God is wrong. You are worshipping a god made in the image of man. You are guilty of mental-image idolatry.

IV. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise. (II Pet. 3:9). Worshippers of the true God can therefore sing with assurance, "Standing on the Promises of God." He promises to provide us with food and raiment, if we seek first His kingdom. (Matt. 6:33). He promises us an hundredfold of houses, brethren and sisters, and mothers and children, and lands, with persecutions, if we will leave all to follow Him. (Mk. 10:30). He promises us His abiding presence as we seek to do His will. (Matt. 28:20). Oh, that every Christian might enjoy the peace and security that come by fully trusting in the promises of God. Unfortunately, there are multitudes who do not worship Him who is true to every promise. They worship a mental-image god who cannot be trusted to keep his word. They worry and fret about hundreds of different things because they have no God on whom they can cast their burden. The idol fashioned in their minds as after the likeness of man. He is quite as helpless as the ancient heathen deities made of wook and stone, and the homage paid to such mental images is as surely hateful to Jehovah as were the idolatries of fleshly Israel.

V. The God of heaven has always required obedience. He withheld from Moses the privilege of entering Canaan; He rejected Saul as Israel's king; He destroyed Nadab and Abihu with fire from heaven, all because of seemingly slight deviations from that which was commanded. Today, however, the majority of religious people suppose that they may take great liberty with what God has commanded. The truth is, they worship a false concept of Deity. Their god approves of all churches and faiths, no matter how great their differences, nor how numerous their contradictions. Their mental-

(see page 6)

DISTURBED ABOUT MUSIC

MENTAL-IMAGE IDOLATRY (cont'd)

image idol allows his subjects to amend, modify or discard his laws, as it suits their individual tastes. In contrast, the Bible emphasizes that the only way to enter the Kingdom of heaven is to obey the will of the Father. (Matt. 7:21). Jesus Christ is the Way that leads to heaven. (Jno. 14:6). We walk the Way of faith. (II Cor. 5:7). Faith comes by hearing the word of God. (Rom. 10:17). Thus to follow the road that leads to heaven we must be obedient to the word of God. To reject the word (by adding to it, taking from it, changing it, or simply disregarding it) is to reject Christ. (Jno. 12:48). A study of the conversions recorded in the book of Acts will reveal that each one reached Christ through faith in and obedience to His word. There is no other way.

Reader, do you worship the true and living God revealed in the Bible? Is your God the all-seeing, ever present, all-wise Jehovah, who cannot be deceived? Do you serve the Holy and righteous God of Israel who hates sin in every form and will in no wise excuse the guilty? Are you devoted to the Almighty who is faithful to every promise and who demands complete submission to His will?

All other gods are idols, fashioned by the minds of men after their own likeness. Are you guilty of mental-image idolatry? Put away this idol from your mind and acquaint yourself with the one true and living God as revealed in the Bible. "LOOK UNTO ME, AND BE YE SAVED, ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: FOR I AM GOD, AND THERE IS NONE ELSE." (Isa. 45:22).

TAPES AVAILABLE

The College Church of Christ in Abilene, Texas, has produced a series of sermon programs on tape primarily for use in mission fields throughout the English speaking world. However, the programs can be utilized by any congregation wherever it is located.

(see page 7)

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

A man who lives in Williston, S. C. is "very much disturbed" about my short article on New Testament Music. If you will get the August issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth and re-read this article, you will see that I quoted nine passages of scripture about music and every one of them required SINGING. It is no wonder the man is disturbed for the article showed what the New Testament says.

Here is the letter. August 22, 1960

Dear Mr. (Brother) Curtis,

"This is concerning the August issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth. I read your article on New Testament Music and am very much disturbed about it. You say the Lord does not desire instrumental music. You also deny that we have the spirit in its miraculous form. If you don't have this miraculous spirit, where do you get this information? (since it is not revealed in the Bible). Are we now educated to the point that we can tell God his desires without Him first telling us? God may want us to sing only for some reason, but He may still like instruments. When Paul said in Gal. 1:8, "But though we or an angel from heaven preach unto you any other Gospel than that which we have preached unto you let him be accursed," I believe this is what he was talking about. Did Paul or any of the apostles preach instruments of music are wrong? In I Pet. 4: 11 Peter says, "If any man speak let him speak as the oracles of God." What then do the oracles of God say? I have attached a lesson on this subject as I see it from the Bible."

Sincerely yours
(name withheld)

I would be just like this man. If I read nine different passages scattered throughout the N. T. and not one of them mentioned PLAYING upon an instrument, I would be "very much disturbed" if I be-

(see page 7)

TAPES (cont'd)

Realizing that many congregations in the mission field might not be able to pay the production costs on the program, the College Church will make it available to them free of charge. However, if a congregation wants to pay the production costs, it will be $2.00 per program. This fee includes the cost of the tape which the congregation can either keep or return. If it is returned, then it can be used by another congregation.

Each program includes a sermon with one verse of a song preceding it and usually an entire song following it depending on the length of the sermon. The entire program is approximately 14 minutes in length. Congregations using this program will probably want brief announcements at the beginning and end of the program.

Outstanding sermons have been chosen for this series. The series is designed for broadcast in areas where the Church is not known but it can be used to good advantage in other areas as well.

Part of the series has been used in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and Durant, Oklahoma, and the entire series is being used in Tarboro, North Carolina and Stephenville, Texas.

DISTURBED (cont'd)

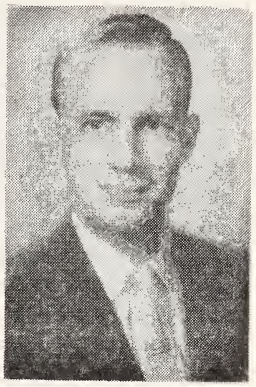
lieved in the use of the instrument in worship.

It is true that all I know about what the Lord wants is what he has told me. And the only way he talks to me is through his word. That is exactly the reason that I KNOW he desires SINGING. He has told me so in the Bible.

It is not my responsibility to prove that God desires instrumental music in worship to him for I don't use it. This man writes, "Are we now educated to the point that we can tell God his desires without Him first telling us?" The answer is, "No." But I ask this man, "Where has God told us that he desires instruments to be used in worship to him today?" He admits that he does not positively know

(see col. 2)

WORKING IN DURHAM, N. C.



Gordon L. Teffeteller

Bro. Teffeteller arrived in Durham to begin work with the Watts Street church on June 1, 1960. Prior to this move he had served the Gonwood congregation in Valdosta, Georgia, for one year. Previous to this he had worked for five years with the Dasher church in Valdosta. While living at Dasher, he taught for three years at Georgia Christian Institute.

Both Gordon and Elaine Gilliland Teffeteller are natives of Maryville, Tennessee. They have two children, Sheri, age 6, and Philip, age 3.

The Durham address of the Teffetellers is 2210 Guess Road. We welcome this family, along with several others, who has recently moved to the Carolinas to help us.

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

what God wants when he says, "He MAY still like instruments." If God MAY like instruments in worship today, it also is true that he MAY not. The person who uses instruments must prove that God so desires them and if he can prove this, then all of us who do not use them are wrong. Amos wrote, "Woe to them... that chant to the sound of the viol and invent to themselves instruments of music, like David." Amos 6:1-5.

Perhaps this will help, if you will receive it. The letter continues, "Did Paul

DISTURBED (cont'd)

or any of the apostles preach instruments of music wrong?" They did not have to. When Jesus said, "Whosoever shall confess ME before men," he did not have to say, "Don't confess Buddha, Confucius, Mohammed, Luther, Calvin, and others." Neither did he have to say, "Don't confess me WITH Luther and Calvin." So when the N. T. tells us to SING there is no need to say, "Don't PLAY," "Don't play and sing." God has already told us what he wants us to do. The command is to SING. Eph. 5:19.

Music is divided into two great classifications--vocal and instrumental. God has clearly required vocal. In choosing one he has automatically rejected the other.

RADIO PROGRAM at BURLINGTON, N. C.

By W. H. Johnson

The Burlington congregation is happy to announce that we will begin a weekly radio program September 18th. We believe you can hear the program in your area and will appreciate any announcement you care to make about it.

We will be on the air from 8:30 A. M. till 9:00 A. M. each Sunday, on station WBAG. This station is found at 1150 on the AM dial and 93.9 on the FM dial.

We hope to be able to reach many more people with the truth and your prayers in behalf of this work will mean much to us. It will mean much to us if we may hear from you if you can hear the program.

PRINTER NEEDED

At the last "Messenger" meeting, held in Florence, the suggestion to employ a qualified printer to operate the equipment on which the paper is produced was well received. It is hoped that a Christian man, ideally a part time preacher, can be found to do this work. He could make an adequate living doing commercial printing and as a Christian, he would be vitally interested in the Carolina Messenger of Truth as well as all types of tracts, leaflets, etc. which would help "sow the seed."

PRINTER (cont'd)

If you are qualified or know of anyone who is qualified, please get in touch with us.

OF THIS AND THAT

The tent meeting at Easley, S. C. closed with no visible results. Bro. G. F. Gibbs, Lawernceburg, Tennessee did the preaching. This new congregation feels like the effort was successful because several attended the services of the church for the first time.---A meeting begins at Anderson, S. C. October 9 and continues through the 14th. Bro. Jerry Hill of Mobile, Ala. will do the preaching. Services will be at 7:30 each evening in the new building on 29 By Pass South at New Pond Rd.---Several who receive bundles of the paper have found it convenient to pay by the quarter (two months in advance). If you care to do this, it will save book work for both of us.---PREACHER NEEDED. We have been requested to announce that Bro. Howard Sawyer will be leaving Elizabethton, Tennessee on November 28. After that time they will be in need of a preacher. Write Clyde Cooper, 444 Doe Avenue, Elizabethton, Tennessee.---THANKS and thanks, again. In an undertaking like the Carolina Messenger of Truth it takes the cooperation of many, many people. You know somewhat of the work of the editor, news editor, circulation manager and publisher. We are grateful for their work. But you perhaps do not know of the work of Mrs. Gene Hicks who handles the mailing list, Mrs. Martha Moon, who prepares the wrappers for mailing, and others who from time to time lend a hand in one capacity or another. Thanks to all of them. Thanks to the staff writers and all others who contribute articles or news. Thanks to all of you who buy the paper. So many

 (see page 11)

News

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Oscar P. Craft, Reporting

Since our last report there have been three baptisms, and three restorations. During August we had a very fine VBS. Average attendance was 87. On the last Sunday of the month we set a new record in attendance - 186. Bro. John H. McCoy, minister of the Crescent Hill church in Brownfield, Texas will be here for a series of meetings October 16th through 23rd. Bro. McCoy has worked with churches in six midwest states. He is author of the book, "Go Teach." We enjoy reading the "Messenger" and pray for its continued success.

FLORENCE, S. C.
William N. Jackson, Evangelist

Dabney Phillips of Tupelo, Mississippi is to be with the church here in a meeting October 11-16, with services at 7:30 nightly. The Florence congregation will be in need of a preacher, beginning October 23rd. We invite interested men to write us. The Otter Creek church, Brentwood, Tennessee will continue to support the work here so that a man can be maintained full-time. We have an adequate building, home for preacher, sufficient salary, with paid utilities, and a twice weekly radio program. Contact us at your earliest opportunity.

VALDESE, N. C.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

The church here will support Bro. Smith in two mission meetings per year. Those interested contact him at P. O. Box 72, Valdese, N. C.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

We have just concluded a tent meeting on the property recently purchased by this congregation. The services were well attended. There was an average of 95 present each evening, with a good number of visitors from the community. Some visitors did not miss a service. One obeyed the gospel. In the past month there have been two confessions of sin and three to place membership.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Since our last report two of our young people have been baptized. We continue to set new records in contribution each month. During September we completely air-conditioned our building. Bro. Sewell is at present engaged in a meeting in Detroit, Mich. He reports one response thus far. Our fall meeting will begin here on October 9, with Bruce Curd as speaker.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

I continue to preach here each Sunday afternoon. Our lot is now paid in full, and we hope to begin a building sometime in 61. There is a need here for a man who could bring most of his support.

NOTICE - Fred Scarbury, Sr., Box 178, Front Royal, Virginia is interested in moving to the Carolinas. Write him if interested.

HOW DO YOU LIKE THE 2 COLORS? LET US HEAR FROM YOU. PERHAPS WE WILL DO IT AGAIN.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Harold Scott, Evangelist

One was baptized this month at Broad Street. The filmstrip series "Now That I'm a Christian," is being shown to new Christians by teams of men from the congregation. Brother Scott closes a meeting in Sumter, S. C. this week, and Bro. Orville Midyette preached for the congregation in his absence. Our fall meeting with Bro. T. A. Isaacs begins on Sunday, October 9, with services each evening during the week at 7:30 p. m.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton Elkins, Evangelist

The church here has purchased a 12 room, two-story dwelling near the public school, to use as a combination church building and minister's residence. About 900 square feet of the downstairs will be used for an auditorium, and two rooms for class rooms. We recently held a meeting with Bro. Richard Taylor of Florence, Alabama preaching. There were no additions, but we believe a great deal of good was done in better acquainting the people of this area with the church.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

Don Reynolds, young son of one of our elders, Henry Reynolds, was baptized into Christ last Sunday evening. This unites the family in Christ. Wonderful! The Plaza church is sending a song leader or a participating member to Troy each Sunday to help with the worship, and encourage the Christians there. We also plan to help with a radio program Bro. Wally Beasley is starting. It is so necessary that we lend our help and support to these

PLAZA continued:

small groups who are laboring in difficult fields. Bro. T. A. Isaacs will begin a series of sermons on qualifications of the elders very soon. This series will precede the appointment of additional elders to serve here. The eldership here was reduced to two men recently when Brother Reynolds departed for Raleigh.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Belmont Congregation
Maxine Rutledge, Reporting

The members of the Belmont congregation have many reasons to be grateful to our Lord Jesus Christ. He has blessed us with many good things during the past ten years, while Bro. Quincy C. Carter has been with us. Bro. A. L. Cassius, architect of Los Angeles, California, began work on our new building on May 10th, 1960. We held our first service in the building September 4th. During the time he was with us, Bro. Cassius baptized fifteen, and several were restored. We are deeply grateful to Bro. Cassius for his good work. We pray Heaven's blessings upon him.

When in Statesville worship with us.

SPECIAL! SPECIAL! SPECIAL!

B. E. Davis and I are in the process of preparing "The Carolina Story," a narrative designed to show the growth and future needs of the church in these two states. Colored slides and tape recordings will be used. This has been needed for a long time. We ask you to help us. Look --

1. This can help acquaint brethren elsewhere with our work.

2. You can send or take it to the congregation supporting you.

3. It can assist in obtaining support for your work.

CAROLINA STORY continued:

4. It can be used among the various congregations here.

Two copies will be made now, others will be added when need arises. These would be available to all. The only expense would be postage, handling charges.

To assist us, please send us 35 mm. 2 x 2 colored slides of church buildings, activities and work. Good scenery shots can be used also. Please enclose an explanatory outline with each one.

The deadline is October 31st!

Bill G. Smith
P. O. Box 72
Valdese, N. C.

SENECA, S. C.
B. E. Davis, Evangelist

After a few "dark Sundays" our contribution and attendance seem on the upswing again. Actually, the loss of so many of our members in August, (as described in last month's report), did not hurt us nearly as much as some of our members feared. Offerings are still very near the level they were before, and our attendance is still in the 40's. To me, this proves that many of the excuses given for not "dividing to grow" are not sound!! A congregation could by going to an extreme, permanently injure itself, of course. But could it be that some of us are afraid of losing our size/prestige, and do not encourage this "giving away" members to begin new churches? I wonder if Christ would say, "Oh, ye of little faith!" Perhaps we ought to be less size-minded and more mission-minded!

THIS AND THAT (con'd)

more things can be accomplished that otherwise could not be when we work together. ---The Lord willing, the first issue of the new year, 1961, will be a special issue on, "The Ten Most Asked Questions About The Church of Christ." (Of course they will be answered). We plan to insert the news in the center, loose leaf fashion, so it can be easily removed and the copy can be used as a tract. The questions will be decided by a survey. Plan to use the issue if you care to.

Please notify us when you move. We want you to receive every copy of the paper.

Watch the numbers on the label. A 10-60 means that your last paper will come in October, 1960. You will not receive the next one unless you renew your subscription.

Greenville, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, reporting

The teen-age class, taught by June Landrum, has recently begun a study of personal work. They are using the book, From House to House, as an outline of study. One is provided for each member of the class. Their goal is to put into practice the things learned, therefore, they have selected as their first project the mailing of cards to all visitors and absentees.

Although three families have moved, visitors boosted our attendance to 54 last Sunday.

Renew your subscription, now.

Read the Messenger then give it to a friend.

Subscribe now to the

Carolina

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Oct. 9 - 15

Services each evening at 7:30

T. A. Isaacs *Evangelist*

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Our only interest is in your soul's salvation

NOVEMBER 1960

Carolina Messenger of Truth

Unity's Foundation

ONE BODY

ONE SPIRIT

ONE HOPE

ONE LORD

ONE FAITH

ONE BAPTISM

ONE GOD

Reaching the CAROLINAS *—A Plan*

Robert Carrell
Raleigh, N. C.

For the past few months, I have been kicking around an idea which, if executed, could possibly result in the establishing of new congregations and an influx of new preachers here in the Carolinas. It has been no little surprise to many Carolina preachers, myself included, that many members of the church in other places do not know that the church here is so weak numerically. Bro. Ray Fullerton made this same point in the Oct. issue of the Messenger. If churches are to know what the real situation is and what the real needs are, we will have to tell them.

At least three areas, all within about 40 miles of Raleigh, are ripe for new congregations. Either Christians or other concerned persons are now living there, but no churches have been ensconced. A church in Alabama is solicitous for an area in the Carolinas where it can serve to the tune of $350 support per month.

We may grouse at the assemblage of preachers in Tennessee and Texas. But our allotment of blame must be received since we may not have effectively proclaimed to them our destitution here. The plan which I propose for getting more preachers in the states and for establishing more congregations is simple. It is a four-part plan; there are two specific parts, each of which has two parts.

The first part of the plan would be to carry out a ne plus ultra proposal made at a preachers' luncheon, Feb. 8, 1960, in Goldsboro. The plan was to inform the aggregate church of the condition and needs of the church in the Carolinas. It was stated that brother Goodpasture had offered space for such in the Gospel Advocate. The same space could probably be obtained in the Christian Chronicle, and it would receive wide circulation in both papers. Certainly, we should carry such information and such an appeal in our own Messenger of Truth. Some of this has already been carried in the Messenger, but the scope of coverage could be broadened and lengthened.

The second part of the plan would be to organize a systematic plan for inviting key brethren to visit strategic points in the two states. We could print a prospectus telling of the conditions and needs in the states, and each key visitor could be armed with such literature. Further distribution of this material could be made in other ways. Brethren Walter Adams, Dean at Abilene Christian College, and George Bailey, preacher at the College Church in Abilene, attended the luncheon in Goldsboro, and both were impressed with the needs and possibilities in the states. H. Clyde Hale visited with the

(see page 4)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Burl Curtis, Editor
Ray Taylor, Publisher
Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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Liberties Threatened

Catholicism and American Freedom - Part III

O. P. Baird
Columbia, S. C.

In the last article it was shown that the position of the Roman Catholic Church in regard to the civil power is that such power should be exercised for the Church and in subjection to the power of the Church as a power superior to the civil power. It was also shown that it is the duty of a Catholic, according to Catholic teaching, to resist any law or enactment that is hurtful to the Church or that violates the authority of Jesus Christ as vested in the person of the Pope.

The very fact that the theory of the Catholic Church is that the civil powers should be exercised for the Church and under the direction of the "spiritual power" places such a constitution as ours in direct rebellion to the Roman Catholic authority and therefore hurtful to the Church and the Pope.

Religious freedom, as guaranteed by our constitution, is hurtful to the interests of the Roman Church. The following quotations are given in Rumblings from Rome by O. C. Lambert: "From what has been said, it follows that it is quite unlawful to demand, to defend, or to grant unconditional freedom of thought, of speech, of writing or of worship, as if these were so many rights given by nature to man" (Leo XIII, Great Encyclical Letters, 161). "It is a part of this theory that all questions that concern religion are to be referred to private judgment; that every one is to be free to follow whatever religion he prefers, or none at all if he disapproves of all...Now when the state rests on foundations like those just named--and for the time being they are greatly in favor--it readily appears unto what and how unrightful a position the Church is driven" (Leo XIII, Great Encyclical Letters, 120, 121). "Although in the extraordinary conditions of these times the Church usually acquiesces in certain modern liberties, not because she prefers them in themselves but because she judges it expedient to permit them, she would in happier times exercise her own liberty" (Leo XIII, Great Encyclical Letters, 158).

Paul Blanshard, in American Freedom and Catholic Power, gives the following as a statement taken from the official world organ of the Jesuits, Civilta Cattolica of Rome, "The Roman Catholic Church, convinced, through its divine prerogatives, of being the only true church, must demand the right of freedom for herself alone, because such a right can only be possessed by truth, never by error. As to other religions, the Church will certainly never draw the sword, but she will require that by ligitimate means they shall not be allowed to propagate false doctrine. Consequently, in a state where the majority of the people are Catholic, the Church will require legal existence be denied to error, and that if religious minorities actually exist, they shall have only a de facto existence without opportunity to spread their beliefs...In some countries, Catholics will be obliged to ask full religious freedom for all, resigned at being forced to cohabitate where they alone should rightfully be allowed to live. But in doing this the Church does not renounce her thesis, which remains the most imperative of her laws, but merely adapts herself to de facto conditions, which must be taken into account in practical affairs... The Church cannot blush for her own want of tolerance, as she asserts it in principle and applies it in practice"(The Christian Century, June 23, 1948; partially reprinted in Time, June 28, 1948, under the heading, "The Church Cannot Blush.") . If any one doubts that she now applies it in practice let him look at Spain, let him look at the modern concordats which the Pope has obtained with civil rulers.

A candidate might be sincere in his declaration of his love for our American liberties and his intention to defend them, but let us remember that as long as he remains a Catholic he is under an avowed loyalty to the authority of the Pope. How can we be sure as to which loyalty will eventually prevail with him and with possible Catholics in the future who take the

 (see page 4)

God's Pilots - The Elders

Gordon Teffeteller
Durham, N. C.

"And God had appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues." (I Cor. 12:28, RSV).

The "administrators" of this text are the "governments" of the King James Version. Another translation for the term is "pilots." The importance of the pilots-who are unquestionably the elders of the churches-can hardly be overestimated and is truth is usually vastly underestimated.

The very existence of the "office of a bishop," I Tim. 3:1, indicates that there are functions peculiar to the elder which are not required of other Christians and which, by the very nature of the case, may not be performed by every Christian. With the elder, as with any Christian, what one ought to do becomes what one must do. Upon the performance of their duties as elders will depend whether the congregation is stunted in its growth or accelerated. The elder cannot usually lift a slothful congregation against its will but it is certainly not right that a congregation should have to bear with a slothful person who is an elder in name but not in life.

What are the plainly taught functions of elders? There are basically five of these as follows:

PERSONAL DUTIES

"Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you bishops...," Acts 20:28a.

In a personal sense the elder must be a consecrated Christian and a gentleman; a worker as well as a director; one who can speak softly and appreciatively as well as bark. Above all else, perhaps, the elder must properly esteem the magnitude of his office, a position that can well determine the spiritual fate of dozens of souls, per-

(see page 5)

OUR LIBERTIES (cont'd)

office of the presidency? The Catholic doctrine of mental reservation makes such a situation the more precarious. I am inclined to think Mr. Kennedy is correct in saying that his expressed position of loyalty to the constitution of our country is the position of the great majority of American Catholics. I noticed particularly that he said American Catholics. It cannot be truthfully claimed that that is the historic official position of the Catholic Church in regard to the kind of government we have. The official Catholic position, expressed by many American Catholics as well as Catholics in other countries, is against democratic liberties for all. Those who point these things out today are accused of religious bigotry but we must not let that cause us to fail to exercise our liberties. In our country a Catholic has the same right to run for office as any one else. Each voter has the right to vote for the candidate which he believes will be the safest guardian of our hard won and precious liberties.

REACHING THE CAROLINAS (cont'd)

church in Kinston in May of this year. He is with the University Church in Nashville. Bro. Hale is well aware of the needs in the Carolinas.

Better organization and a multi-lateral movement seem to be the solution to our problem of more effectively and more thoroughly doing the job of establishing new churches.

The third part of the plan is for groups of three or four congregations all over the two states to locate a desirable point to begin a church, to gather pertinent data, and then to begin contacting congregations in stronger areas in order to obtain support. I believe the concerted and concentrated push will get the job done.

The fourth and last part of the plan is to

(see page 16)

GOD'S PILOTS (cont'd)

haps hundreds or thousands. One man who said, "I am a husband and a father, therefore qualified," displayed the profoundest ignorance of his proposed tasks as a bishop. Too, proper care must be exercised to insure that one's conduct is irreproachable as an elder. Why should a congregation, with all its problems and tasks, have added to them such a major one as is brought by un-Christian conduct by its elders? A great conception of stewardship is required. Finally, the elder needs fresh starts as do all of us: through Bible study, prayer, and meditations upon heaven, hell and salvation.

EDIFICATIONAL DUTIES

"... to feed the church of the Lord which he purchased with his own blood," Acts 20:28b.

Important as a good start is, steady growth and progress in a congregation are important. The churches with elders which most of us have encountered have elders who are the best of men but not always the most alert and businesslike. The elder is to see that New Testament principles of growth and development are applied to the congregation and to individuals. From the standpoint of nourishment, the church must be "fed," Acts 20:28; from the standpoint of maturity it must be taught to "grow up," Eph. 4:11-16. Especially significent is the direction that the elders "take care of" the church, I Tim. 3: 5. This term, epimeleomai, is found in only one other usuage in the N. T. -the Good Samaritan's care of the wounded man. Thus it means to provide for the church, involving forethought. This is a great concept of service!

PROTECTIONAL DUTIES

"Obey them that have the rule over you and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account." Heb. 13:17.

The term, "keeping watch," is translated from agrupneo, meaning literally to "chase sleep." In this light the elder is to overcome his own proneness to drift and to take the line of least resistance and to awaken to dangers facing their souls. This is a tremendous task for the best of elders!

DIRECTIONAL DUTIES

"... exercising the oversight, not by constraint but willingly... not as domineering over those in your charge..." I Pet. 5:2, 3.

Much wisdom is required for directing God's people, including "easy to be intreated," James 3:13-17. The elder is a steward of God's truth, not a legislator of truth, Titus 1:7. Though he is said "to have the rule," the term, "rule," comes from proistemi, a term which means "stand before" the flock of God. There is much difference in "standing before" (leading) and "standing over" (lording) God's people. Let the elder be more in love with his responsibility than his authority!

INSPIRATIONAL DUTIES

"Remember those that have the rule over you... and imitate their faith," Heb. 13:7.

A faith worthy of imitation must be found in the life of the elder. When Peter expressed that they are to be "ensamples," I Pet. 5:3, he was expressing that they should be molds, patterns or sketches for others to conform to. Therefore, avoiding defeatism, the elder should lead in optimism, foresight, faith, and chiefly, WORK!

These are great ideals and none is perfect, but each elder deserves our support and help in a very great work indeed.

WHAT COLOR IS THE DEVIL?

Noyles E. Sewell
Wilmington, N. C.

The devil is the arch-enemy of God and all that is right. His subtle deceptions, continually employed to keep man estranged from God, include even the donning of angelic garb. (II Cor. 11:14). The traditional concept of the devil's appearance, including horns, hooves, and pointed tail, is contrary to both reason and revelation. It is his intent to deceive, not to save us. Error and temptation, therefore, present themselves in an attractive way and many are deceived.

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WHAT COLOR (con't)

There are great forces at work in the world today that bear the unmistakable stamp of Satan. He reveals himself in these forces just as certainly as if he should literally appear to us. In this article let us direct our attention to one of these forces which is working for the devil.

BLACK is the color of Romanism. The priests and nuns wear black. They refer to certain special days as "black" fast days. But Romanism is black mainly because it reflects no light from the word of God. The only light produced by the Roman Catholic church emanates from the fires of persecution which consume those who dare oppose it. This is their record. We are told today that they have changed. We ask, where have they changed? Not in Columbia, South America, not in Italy, not in the Phillipines, and certainly not in Spain. If, or perhaps we should say when, Black Romanism becomes sufficiently strong to force its will upon the people of the United States, we will then experience similar conditions. A regular column in the New York Herald carries this statement by Harney, a Roman Catholic priest, "Does the Catholic Church regard protestants as heretics and teach that they should be punished, even by death if necessary?" "In a way I say yes. Certainly the church considers protestants heretics...I do not doubt if they were strong enough, that the Catholic people would hinder, even by death if necessary, the spread of such error through the people, and I say, rightly so." It is the outspoken intent of Roman Catholicism to spread their cloak of spiritual blackness over every individual in this land of the free and to replace our democratic system with a government of the Vatican. Though it is NOT likely that the hierarchy will see the complete realization of this dream within this present generation, it is highly possible that our children will experience it. Nov. 8, 1960 may well be a "black" day in history, a day in which the black forces of the devil lay claim to the chief executive position in our government. There is only one vote that is acceptable to Christian conscience. To vote for a Roman Catholic candidate for President is to bid godspeed to the Roman Catholic Church in their supreme bid for power. Contemptible indeed in the Christian who is willing to gamble the future spiritual well-being of his children against the possible realization of his party's campaign promises. Israel of old allowed their children to be burned to death in sacrifice to the heathen god, Moloch. Is it not even greater evil for enlightened Christian men and women to sacrifice the SOULS of their children on the altar of party politics? May God help us.

SPECIAL ISSUE IN JANUARY

Watch for the Special Issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth in January, 1961. The theme will be, MOST OFTEN ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST. Bro. Carl Lancaster is conducting a survey now and the top ten questions will be used. The news in this issue will be detachable so that the "Messenger" may be used as a tract.

PREACHERS LEAVING

Bob Plunkett, who has been with the Central church in Spartanburg, S. C., is moving to Alabama. Bobby Reynolds of Gastonia, N. C. has moved to Tenn.

ASHEVILLE, N. C. (Vance St.)

Following the morning service, Oct. 23, four came forward to obey their Lord. Three acknowledged wrongs and one was baptized into Christ.

Christmas

T. A. Isaacs
Charlotte, N. C.

Despite ideas to the contrary, this is a most vital theme, and needs emphasizing time and time again. As we find ourselves on the threshold of an event which occasions a great deal of excitement, and which is supposedly an event of religious observance, it is well to pause and soberly review the facts of the circumstances. Paul said "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." (I Thess. 5:21). Thus one reason for our study of the celebration of Christmas.

There are many things in our lives which are properly engaged in that have no immediate relation to religious worship and observance. For example, we remember and "celebrate" our birthdays (if not past 30), yet no thought of attaching religious importance to the event is suggested. The same could be said of anniversaries and other like occasions. Yet in all of these we are to conduct our lives in such a manner as to be "blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world." (Phil. 2:15). However, some events which we participate in have been paraded to the public as "holy days" which have no claim at all to this classification. Christmas is one of these.

The purpose of this lesson is first of all to discuss the origin of Christmas, so called, and to call attention to reasons why we may not observe it in a religious way. A second purpose of this lesson is to discuss why we may observe the spirit of the season if only and exclusively in a secular manner.

I. FIRST OF ALL LET US NOTICE PAUL'S INJUNCTIONS AGAINST KEEPING HOLY DAYS:

Paul was guided by the Holy Spirit to warn, "Ye observe days, and months, and seasons, and years. I am afraid of you, lest by any means I have bestowed labor upon you in vain." (Gal. 4: 10, 11). The error of the churches of Galatia was the religious observance of days of their own choosing.

The O. T., the national religion of the Jews before Christ's death, was replete with holy days, and seasons. A careful reader, however, is struck with the absence of holy day ordinances in the N. T., which Jesus gave for the whole world. This lack of ceremonial feasting and celebration, as seen by the above passage, was not an oversight, or indifference, but purposeful planning by Jesus, our Master.

The Bible does not therefore authorize the observance of days in a religious way except the first day of each week. Only one day, the first day of the week, is set apart by God for Christian worship. Such is the Lord's day and is so called because it was on this day that our Lord was resurrected from the grave; it was on this day that the early disciples assembled together, (Acts 20:7); it was on this day that they ate the Lord's Supper in memory of their crucified Savior, (Acts 20:7 & I Cor. 11). It was on this day that the disciples contributed into a common treasury that needy saints might be helped and the work of the church carried on, (I Cor. 16:2). Remember that this is the only day, the observance of which, in a religious way, is authorized by the Bible, the Word of God. This within itself denies the privilege of observing the birthday of Christ, for no injunction is made anywhere in the Word of God relative to the keeping of the birthday of Christ.

II. LET US NOTICE NEXT A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EARLY CHURCH, IT'S GROWTH AND THE FALLING AWAY.

Christ came, prepared for and predicted the establishment of the church, his body of saved people. He said, "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. 16:18).

Christ died to bring the church into existence. Paul said, "He purchased it with his own blood." (Acts 20:28). And in writing to the Ephesians he said Christ have himself for it: "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that he might present the church to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Eph. 5:25-27).

Christ gave the great commission, then ascended to the right hand of the Father on high. This commission was executed on the first Pentecost after His resurrection from the dead. The gospel was preached in its fulness, for the first time on that day. The church was established and three thousand souls were added to it on that day. (Acts 2).

The N. T. church had definite characteristics such as its name, its creed, its organization, its mission and its worship. The early church was unified. Paul wrote to the Ephesians to "give diligence to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." (Eph. 4:3). He wrote to the Corinthians these words, "Now I beseech you, brethren, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly

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CHRISTMAS (cont'd)

joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." (I Cor. 1:10). In N. T. times there was but one body for the apostle wrote to the Ephesians, "There is one body, and one spirit, even as also ye are called in one hope of your calling." (Eph. 4:4). The early church was indeed unified for Luke, the historian, writes these words concerning the early church, "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and soul." (Acts 4:32). Because of this unity the church grew rapidly. Acts 4:4 reveals to us the fact that the number of men came to be about five thousand. But it was not long until the church began to decline and head for certain apostacy. This had been predicted by the apostle Paul before he passed from this life. In I Tim. 4:1-4, he wrote, "But the Spirit saith expressly that in later times some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons, through the hypocrisy of men that speak lies, branded in their own conscience as with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving." And again in II Tim. he wrote, "I charge thee in the sight of God, and of Christ Jesus, who shall judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be urgent in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts, and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside unto fables." (II Tim. 4:1-4). And further the apostle wrote to the Thessalonians concerning the day of the Lord, that it would not be "except the falling away come first, and the man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." (II Thess. 2:3).

Despite the various prophecies and warnings from God, man soon began to change the doctrine of the Lord's church. One of the first changes made was in the organization or government of the local congregations. This change in the local congregations occurred within 150 years after the apostles preached and worked on the earth, even 150 years after Jesus returned to the heavenly Father. According to the N. T. each congregation is under Jesus Christ and each appoints qualified men to serve as elders who are to oversee the congregation's spiritual welfare and work. The deacons, ministers, teachers and members work and worship together under the oversight of the elders.

Since each congregation has its own elders, each congregation has its own responsibility to Christ who is "head of the body, the church." We notice also that in God's pattern each elder has the same authority. But in the early church, it soon became a practice to establish one of these elders above the others, and to reserve for him alone the title of "bishop." In time these so-called bishops (The chief elders) began to hold meetings to legislate for the congregations. The religious laws they made were bound on the congregations on a par with God's Holy Word.

In 325 A. D. three hundred and eighteen of these bishops met at Nicea and wrote the Nicene Creed, the first human creed after the establishment of the church. This was another step away from God's way for His people.

Other changes in doctrine brought about by councils of men were: the use of Holy Water in 120 A. D. (This was borrowed from the Jews' religion.) Latan Mass, started in 394 A. D., took the place of the Lord's supper as instituted by Jesus. Extreme Unction was started in 588 A. D. Men began teaching there was a Purgatory in 593 A. D. which increased the sale of indulgences. Instrumental music was introduced first into a Roman church in 670 A. D. The doctrine of Transubstantiation took place in 1000 A. D. Priests were not allowed to marry after 1015 A. D. "Sprinkling" for "Baptism" was first accepted by the Roman church in 1311 A. D. Pagan ceremonials were also introduced during these years as well as many Jewish customs such as the keeping of holy days, and among these countless innovations was the idea of keeping the birthday of Christ. This we shall prove beyond a shadow of a doubt.

III. NEXT WE CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTMAS.

The Bible does not say anything about, and no history or encyclopedia denotes, the observance of Christmas in the first century. Therefore, it is strictly a post-apostolic innovation. After Rome submitted to Christianity, which became the state religion, the Old Pagan Roman Sun festival gradually evolved into a so-called Christian festival which came to commemorate the birthday of Jesus. This was some 300 years after the establishment of the church.

Mr. Philip Schaff in his "History of the Christian Church" says, "Notwithstanding this deep significance and wide popularity, the festival of the birth of the Lord is of comparatively late institution. This may doubtless be accounted for in the following manner: In the first, no corresponding festival was presented by the O. T... In the second place, the day and month of the birth of Christ are nowhere stated in the gospel history, and cannot certainly be determined. A-

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CHRISTMAS (cont'd)

gain the church lingered first of all about the death and resurrection of Christ, the completed fact of redemption, and made this the center of the weekly worship and the church year. Finally: the earlier feast of Epiphany afforded a substitute." (Vol. III, p. 395).

Mr. Schaff continues, "We find it (the feast of Christmas) first in Rome, in the time of the Bishop Liberius, who on the Twenty-fifth of Dec., 360, consecrated Marcella, the sister of St. Ambrose, nun or bride of Christ, and addressed her with the words: 'Thou seest what multitides are come to the birth-festival of thy bridegroom.' ... Christmas was introduced in Antioch about the year 380, in Alexandria, where the feast of Epiphany was celebrated as the nativity of Christ, not till about 430. Chrysostom, who delivered the Christmas homily in Antioch on the 25th of Dec., 386, already calls it, notwithstanding its recent introduction (some ten years before), the fundamental feast, or the root, from which all other Christian festivals grow forth." (Vol. III, pp. 395, 396). And, I might add, these festivals have grown forth without the authority of Jesus Christ who has all authority in Heaven and on earth.

But Mr. Schaff further states, "The Christmas festival was probably the Christian transformation or regeneration of a series of KINDRED HEATHEN FESTIVALS (emphasis by T. A. Isaacs)--the Suturnalia, Sigillaria, Juvenalia, and Brumalia--which were kept in Rome in the month of Dec. in commemoration of the golden age of universal freedom and equality, and in honor of the unconquered sun, and which were great holidays, especially for slaves and children." (Ibid. p. 396).

Mr. Schaff then tells us what these heathen festivals were: "The Saturnalia were the feast of Saturn or Kronos, in representation of the golden days of his reign, when all labor ceased, prisoners were set free, slaves went about in gentlemen's clothes and in the hat (the mark of a freeman), and all classes gave themselves up to mirth and rejoicing. The Sigillaria were a festival of images and puppets at the close of the Saturnalia on the 21st and 22nd of Dec., when miniature images of the gods, wax tapers, and all sorts of articles of beauty and luxury were distributed to children and among kinsfolk. The Brumalia, from bruma (brevissima, the shortest day), and had reference to the winter solstice, and the return of the Sol invictus." (Vol. III, p. 396).

Notice another quotation from Mr. Schaff showing the origin of this supposedly religious holy day: "Finally, the church fathers themselves, confirm the symbolical reference of the feast of the birth of Christ, the Sun of righteousness, the Light of the world, to the birth-festival of the unconquered sun, which on the twenty-fifth of Dec., after the winter solstice, breaks the growing power of darkness, and begins anew his heroic career." (Vol. III, pp. 396, 397).

But let us turn now to other sources of information concerning the origin of Christmas. The following quotation taken from "An Encyclopedia of Religion," edited by Vergilius Ferm, shows the flimsy foundation for trying to make a holy day out of Dec. 25. "There seems to have been no interest in the birthday until the time of Hippolytus, Bishop of Rome, in the first half of the 3rd century. He first chose Jan. 2; others proposed May 20, April 18 or 19, Mar. 25 or 28. For some time Jan. 6 had been observed as Christ's spiritual birthday or date of His baptism and there is evidence that it was also celebrated by some as the day of His natural birth.

"According to authentic records, no church festival was held in celebration of Christ's birth until the first half of the 4th century. Only slowly was Dec. 25 adopted in the East where Jan. 6 was observed in honor of the physical and spiritual births. This date was celebrated by Jerusalem until 549 and has been by the Armenian Christians to the present.'" (pp. 164, 165).

"Christmas was not among the earliest festivals of the church, and before the 5th century there was no general consensus of opinion as to when it whould come in the calendar, whether on Jan. 6, Mar. 25, or Dec. 25." (Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 5, p. 641). Other historians have assigned such dates as May 20, Apr. 19 or 20, while Clement of Alexandria set the date as Nov. 17. Thus by only skimming the surface of historical investigation, we have already collected a total of six out of the twelve months, in which some people, some time, and somewhere, have celebrated Christmas.

"In Britian, Dec. 25 was a festival long before the conversion to Christianity, for Bede relates that the ancient peoples of the Angli began the year on Dec. 25, when we now celebrate the birthday of the Lord; and the very night which is now so holy to us, they called in their tongue, 'modranecht,' that is, mother's night, by reason we suspect of the ceremonies which in that nightlong vigil they performed. In England the observance of Christmas was forbidden by act of Parliament in 1644; Charles II, revived the feast, but the Scots adhered to the Puritan view." (Encyclopedia Britannica, p. 642).

"As late as 245 A. D., Origen repudiated the idea of keeping the birthday of Christ, 'as if he were a king Pharaoh.'" (Ibid. p. 642).

Now we quote from The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, Vol. III, page 1628, "There

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CHRISTMAS (cont'd)

in no certainty as to the month or day of the birth. The Christmas date, Dec. 25, is first met with in the West in the 4th Century (the eastern date was Jan. 6), and was then possibly borrowed from a pagan festival. December, in the winter season, seems unlikely, as unsuitable for the pasturing flocks (Lk. 2:8), though this objection is perhaps not decisive. (Andrews, Conder) A more probable date is a couple of months earlier." This is sufficient evidence to conclude that the date of Dec. 25, commonly known as Christmas, the birthday of Jesus, is the result of wild guessing. It cannot be a holy day ordained by our Lord.

We offer another quotation from the book entitled "The Two Babylons" by Alexander Hislop, p. 93, "How, then, did the Roman Church fix on Dec. 25 as Christmas day? Why, thus: long before the fourth century, and long before the Christian era itself, a festival was celebrated among the heathen, at that precise time of the year, in honor of the birth of the son of the Babylonian queen of heaven; and it may fairly be presumed that, in order to conciliate the heathen, and to swell the number of the nominal adherents of Christianity, the same festival was adopted by the Roman church, giving it only the name of Christ."

The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge, (the standard work in its field), Vol. III, pp 47, 48 states:

"CHRISTMAS: the supposed anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ, occuring on Dec. 25. No sufficient data, however, exist for the determination of the month or the day of the event---Hippolytus seems to have been the first to fix upon Dec. 25---The uncertainty of all the data discredits the computation. There is no historical evidence that our Lord's birthday was celebrated during the apostolic or early postapostolic times---The earliest record of the recognition of Dec. 25 as a church festival is in the Philocalian calender (copied 354, but representing Roman practice in 336) ---Chrysostom (in 386) states that the celebration of the birth of Christ 'according to the flesh' was not inaugurated at Antioch until ten years before that date. He intimates that this festival, approved by himself, was opposed by many. An Armenian writer of the eleventh century states that the Christmas festival, invented in Rome by a heretic, Artemon, was first celebrated in Constantinople in 373---the celebration of Christmas as a special Christian festival spread rapidly from the middle of the fourth century onward."

It is evident, therefore, that the celebration of the birth of Christ was first begun 300 years or so after his death, on a date for which there is no sufficient data for the determination thereof, as a carry-over from a pagan festival with its unseemly frivolity, and originated in the minds and desires of men, nor from God.

How could we observe the event with "religious significance" when no such significance (from the Lord) attended its origination? Over and over we hear from denominational groups and preachers, "Let's put Christ back into Christmas!" However, we could just as well say, "Let's put Christ back into the Fourth of July!" for our Lord had just as much to do with the origination of the Fourth of July as He did with the beginning of the observance of "Christmas." The so-called "mass" a gathering of nominal disciples, at which gathering certain rituals were performed, rituals mixed with Paganism and Judaism, was introduced among other innovations by the Roman Church, and the annual mass which celebrated Christ's birthday came to be known as "Christmas Mas," or mass of Christ, or in our language Christ Mass. Before the 5th century there was no general opinion when the mass should come, whether on Dec. 25, Jan. 6, or Mar. 25. Some thought it should be observed on Jan. 6, because the first Adam was created on the 6th day and the second Adam, Christ, should then be born on the 6th day of the new year. In 440, a Bishop Juvenal introduced the 25th of Dec. observing this day questioned by many, because of the Roman Pagan Sun Worship being the same day. Hence most kept Jan. 6. But, in 534, 94 years later, Dec. 25 was made official by the Bishop of Rome.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SAID OF AMERICANS



"We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us."

A Challenge

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

With only a few exceptions, the congregations established in the Carolinas within the past fifteen years have had small beginnings-too small to support a full time preacher. Rightfully so, these congregations have called upon larger churches to aid them financially. Thanks to those good brethren throughout the nation who have assisted. The total amount sent into the Carolinas during these fifteen years perhaps would surprise most of us. Money has been received to support full time preachers, so support preachers in gospel meetings, to erect buildings, to pay radio programs, etc. Preachers and congregations who receive support should show their gratitude to those who support them.

How long should a congregation call upon others to provide support? Five years? Ten years? I know some that have been receiving support for fifteen years. We all know that because of the many things involved, no definite answer can be given to our question. The answer would vary with different localities. Certainly a congregation is justified in requesting aid from others who are stronger if it simply cannot carry its own load.

But what a difference there is between "can not" and "will not." I am persuaded that many congregations now being supported by others should and could be self-supporting-if they, through the years, had diligently planned and worked toward this goal.

Through observation I am convinced that it is possible to give a congregation too much, that in some cases congregations are being harmed rather than helped. I think I have known some congregations in the Carolinas that have been given too much. When congregations continue to receive full support for their preacher, have preachers sent to them for meetings year after year with all expenses paid, and in some cases have new buildings practically given to them, it is easy for them to develop the attitude that they can't do anything on their own. A few years ago I received a letter from a congregation requesting the church with which I labored to send me to them for a mission meeting. Upon my arrival, can you imagine my surprise to learn that they had almost as many members as the church which sent me, that they owned a building when the church which was paying my expenses had just obligated themselves several thousands of dollars for a new building? This was not a Carolina church but it serves to illustrate what can happen anywhere.

How can a congregation become self-supporting? Recently, Jim Bill McInteer in Nashville, Tenn. called me and asked this very question. He had been invited to speak on this subject in Nashville. After thinking on the question for a few days I wrote him a very simple answer.

A congregation can become self-supporting by having a real desire and a strong determination to assume its own financial load. It must be willing to start in a small way, even five or ten dollars per month, if necessary, and work toward doing more year by year. Too many don't want to start at all unless they can carry it all. Preachers, I believe we do congregations an injustice if we work with them year after year, receiving our support from others, unless we are constantly urging the local brethren to assume a portion of their financial load. I am fully persuaded that any congregation can become self-supporting within a few years if it is yearning to do so, and is fully determined to shoulder its own obligations.

We need to change our thinking. Instead of thinking about all that we hope to do some day, let us begin now doing what we can. We say we are too small. We tell ourselves that some day we'll be big enough to carry our own load, and that

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The Case of B. S. Skipper

(WITH APOLOGIES TO "DRAGNET")

THE STORY you are about to hear is true; only the names have been changed to protect the guilty. My name is Bible Study Skipper. I am a lazy Christian. The time was about 8:25 A.M. Lord's Day morning. I was sleeping soundly after getting to bed late Saturday night. . . . *8:30 A.M.*—The alarm rang. I reached over, reset the clock for 10:30 A.M. . . *9:15 A.M.*—I woke up. Something kept me from really getting back to sleep. I drank milk, went back to bed and dozed off again. . . . *10:30 A.M.*—The alarm rang. I leaped up and rushed to get ready. After all, I did not want to be late and the services do start at 10:45 A.M.—*10:40*—I was almost ready for services. All I had to do was brush my teeth, comb my hair, and put on my shoes. . . . *10:46 A.M.*—I opened the back door and left the house. . . . *11:00 A.M.*—I reached the church building, looked at my watch—only 15 minutes late. . . . *12:00 P.M.*—Services were over. I spoke to as few people as possible because I was in a hurry to get home. . . . *12:15 P.M.*—I reached home, sat in the big easy chair and relaxed. It certainly was nice to be home and have the rest of the week for myself. . . . The trial was held on the day of judgment in Department 22 in and for the state of "heaven." The suspect, "B. S. Skipper" was tried and convicted on a charge of "neglect." *First degree neglect!* Punishment to be assigned by the Judge of all the earth.

A CHALLENGE (cont'd)

we want to help others. This is fine if we really mean it. But how many years have we been saying this? Brethren, I challenge every congregation in the Carolinas that is presently being supported by others, to do something in the way of supporting yourselves in 1961. Do this even if you are not able to provide more than $5.00 per month. Write the congregations which are supporting you and request that they cut your support this amount. Tell them that you are working toward carrying your own lead, and that you desire to assume a portion of it now. If you will set a definite amount which you plan to provide and let all the members know that you are taking this step, I am confident that the contributions will increase. Are you willing to try? BRETHREN, I CHALLENGE YOU!

Greenville, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, reporting

Our attendance has been on the increase lately. We have had three people to place membership. We are looking forward to next year. We are planning a budget of $80.00 per wk. which is $30.00 over last year. We are happy to announce that Bro. James Watkins of Chattanooga, Tennessee will be with us in a meeting in May 1961.

PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN YOU MOVE so that you will not miss an issue of the paper. If you know of anyone who is not receiving it, please let us know. Mail your communication to P. O. Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C.

Please renew your subscription.

Just for Today

Just for Today I will try to live through this day only, and not tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do something for twelve hours that would appall me if I felt that I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for Today I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, that, "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Just for Today I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my "luck" as it comes, and fit myself to it.

Just for Today I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study. I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for Today I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn, and not get found out; if anybody knows of it, it will not count. I will do at least two things I don't want to do—just for exercise. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but today I will not show it.

Just for Today I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, criticize not one bit, not find fault, and not try to regulate anybody except myself.

Just for Today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for Today I will have a quiet half hour all by myself, and relax. During this half hour, sometime, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.

Just for Today I will be unafraid. Especially I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful, and to believe that as I give to the world, so the world will give to me.

Losing and Saving Life

TWO MEN were riding in a sleigh in the Far North. They were on their way home during a bitterly cold blizzard. One of them noticed the form of a man by the side of the road and they stopped. He found the man almost frozen to death and badly in need of artificial respiration and stimulation.

His companion in the sleigh refused to wait for him to try to save the man's life. He feared that they all might die from the cold if they waited any longer, so he drove on alone.

After working hard at the job, the "Good Samaritan" succeeded in reviving the stranger and forcing him to walk several miles into town. As they came to their destination, they noticed the sleigh in front of the house. It took only a moment to discover that the companion who had sought to save himself had relaxed into a sleep from which there is no awakening in this life.

The "Good Samaritan" had saved his own life by exerting all his efforts to save another life. You too can save yourself by seeking to save others. Personal work will sharpen your interest in Bible Study, quicken your appetite for prayer and worship, increase your appreciation for Christian friends, and kindle your zeal for God's work. "He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it" (Matt. 10:39).

News

ABERDEEN, N. C.
Darrel E. Beard, Evangelist

We moved to Aberdeen the first day of August. September 4 - 11 was the date of our meeting with Elmer L. Smith of Nashville, Tennessee speaking. There were no baptisms, but several visitors attended. After some difficult times, the church is getting settled and firmly established in this fertile field. We are most fortunate to have an adequate building in which to meet. It is a meeting house a denominational group used until about 1956.
On November 20, at 3:00 p.m. the church here has planned a singing. We hope to fill the building. Come and be with us.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street Congregation
Harold Scott, Evangelist

Our fall meeting closed Saturday night, October 15, with 9 having responded to the invitation of Christ. Three were baptized, six came confessing faults. On the Sunday following the meeting one was baptized and one restored.
The Abilene and Broad Street congregations in Statesville are cooperating in a combined young people's class and chorus which meets at the Broad Street building on Sunday afternoons. Bro. Scott teaches the class Christian evidences, and Bro. Midyette and members of both churches assist in training voices in the chorus.
Several new cottage classes are beginning this month as a result of recent responses in baptisms and restoration.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
W. J. Perkins, Evangelist

The Warner's Chapel congregation surpassed by 34 a long-standing record in Bible School Sunday. Great encouragement to plan future growth was felt by the church. Contributions are increasing -- as high as $ 316 recently. We are cooperating with two churches in Winston-Salem at the Dixie Classic Fair. Beside advertising displays, we are now showing films of the Herald of Truth to tent audiences.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

We have achieved new records in contributions for five consecutive months. On October 9 we begin a gospel meeting with Bro. Bruce Curd preaching. We went over our goal of 100 on that day and were privileged to see a man 87 years of age baptized into Christ.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

One was baptized into Christ since our last report and construction is well underway on 50' by 20' frame building that will serve as temporary meeting quarters. The unit is designed to be completed into a five bedroom preacher's home eventually. IS THERE A PREACHER WILLING TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE TO MOVE TO WHITEVILLE??

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

Bro. T. A. Isaacs has just concluded a week's gospel meeting at the Broad Street Church in Statesville, N. C. There were ten responses (three baptisms, seven restorations). Brother

PLAZA continued:

Ralph Bowlin and some of the men in the congregation are constructing three new sorely needed classrooms in our building. We appreciate the time and skill given by these men to this work. We are trying to boost attendance at our Monday evening men's training class as well as the Thursday morning ladies' bible class. These extra sessions are so important to the proper conduct of the Lord's business.
Our attendance and contributions show some improvement but the need for work continues in the face of the challenge in this city.

FROM THE NEWS EDITOR:

Where's all the news this month? We wish we knew! Evidently, the congregations over the two Carolinas just didn't have anything to report. Or, could it be that all of us just got a little bit negligent? We venture the guess that these pages would be overflowing, if all the churches reported everything that should be reported! Please, heed our reminder that we cannot print news when we get no news! If you enjoy reading the reports from the other congregations, then surely they enjoy reading your news also! So, why not make it a habit to submit your reports regularly? Here's a suggestion -- MARK YOUR CALENDAR with the deadline date, and make sure you submit your reports often. This journal is being published for your use, but if we get no cooperation in such matters as reporting recent activities in the congregations, then its usefulness is dead! We can beg, we can plead, we can do everything we can to persuade you to cooperate, but in the final analysis, only YOU can make this journal the kind of news medium you would like it to be!! Send your articles to us, and we will print them; neglect to do it, and this section of the paper is a failure! It's just as simple as that -- the success of the news columns depends on YOU! So, please --- send them in?

B. E. Davis

EDITOR continued:

SENECA, S. C.
B. E. Davis, Evangelist

The congregation here is gaining rapidly in striving to regain its membership level comparable to a number we had on the roll before losing the group to the new congregation in Easley. Our contributions are not up to par yet but our attendance is good.
We now have a fine young men directing our song service, who is enrolled in Clemson. He is Bro. James Holley, from the church in Georgetown, S. C. His arrival was a blessing to our group, for this was one of our greatest and most pressing needs before he came.
Our last outdoor social gathering of the year was October 30.

EASLEY, S. C.
John Avant, Reporting

The church in Easley has taken another step forward in scheduling Wednesday night service recently. This rounds out a full program of work for this young congregation. Visiting speakers from surrounding congregations preach for us on Sunday afternoons. When in this vicinity, visit with us.

FOR SALE: One 54 passenger Dodge Bus; '49 model; $ 350. See Bob Rigdon, Box 101, Sylva, N. C.

REACHING THE CAROLINAS (cont'd)

then contact preachers to move in to these areas. They can do so with full support, armed with vital information already gathered, and with the knowledge that other concerned brethren are ready to assist variously in the work.

This is basically a matter of advertising and contacting. I would like to know what others think about this. It isn't an attempt to organize an authoritative body, but rather, it is an attempt to plan a more effective work among the separate congregations in the two states. The hit and miss type of planning will get some work done, but a movement in which we all push together will surely be more effective.

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH THE MESSENGER.

Darrell E. Beard
Aberdeen, N. C.

The congregation at Aberdeen, N. C. is young and most of the members are not yet acquainted with the various papers and magazines that our brethren publish. Believing these forms of literature to be helpful to members of the church, we are featuring one each week, placing a copy in the vestibule with a brief comment about the paper and telling how much the subscription price is and where to order it. Members of the church here are encouraged to subscribe to those which they think would be useful to them.

The first paper to be displayed was the very attractive October issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth. Beside the paper was placed these comments:

"The Carolina Messenger of Truth is published monthly in Easley, S. C. It carries articles by various writers in the Carolinas and has a section which contains news of the church in the two states.

"The paper was begun in January 1959 as a means of informing people of the work in the Carolinas as well as a teaching media. Subscription price is $2.00 per year; order from: Carolina Messenger of Truth, P. O. Box 214, Easley, S. C."

GETTING ACQUAINTED (cont'd)

THE CATCH-ALL COLUMN

Bill Smith, Valdese, N. C., writes that he has received 50 of the questionnaires which you have returned. If you have not sent in your information for the new directory, please do so. Bill, also, requests that we print the following suggestion: "It would be good for the congregations who do not have the mail delivered to the building to obtain and keep the same post office box."---The church in Union, S. C. is looking for a preacher to move and work there beginning about Jan. 1, 1961.---Wayman Love writes, "On Nov. 6, I will begin work with the Central Avenue congregation in Augusta, Ga. Our address there will be 2206 Woodland Ave. The church building is located at 1612 Central Avenue."---From Chester, S. C. we received the following note: "Thank you - you are doing a good job." We appreciate these encouraging words. ALL personnel of the "Messenger" please note and take "heart."---About the cost of the new directory, we believe we are safe to quote the following prices: single copy - $1.00; 2-5 copies - 75¢ each; over 5 copies - 50¢ each. We don't really know what the cost will be for we have not been able, as yet, to determine the number of pages. If you really want one of the 1961 Directories, you should send in your order fairly soon. There is little likelihood of a demand great enough to require a second printing. --- We understand the church is now meeting in Chapel Hill, N. C. at 110 Saunders Hall, U. N. C. Well, that's one less town to go. Won't it be wonderful when there is a congregation in every city and village in the Carolinas.---We do not continue the Messenger after your subscription has expired. We are not UNkind, just UNprofitable.

Carolina

Messenger of Truth



South Fork Building - Winston-Salem, N. C.

DECEMBER 1960

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - SOMETIMES RATHER LENGTHY !

"Endosed you will find an article I have written on the subject of "Christmas," from a woman's point of view. Many articles have been written on why Christians can't celebrate Christmas, and we truly cannot as Christ's birthday, but (let us) not lean too far over...and become a cold, loveless people."

(Parts of the article submitted)

Christmas, with the exception of birthdays, is the happiest day of a young child's life. The small child dreams of Santa Claus flying through the air and for weeks looks at toys and lets everyone know what he wants for Christmas.

The parents of young children really enjoy selecting and buying the gifts. They live for weeks prior to see the joyous faces of the little ones on that eventful morning of Dec. 25. The happiness of a family is impossible to describe and remains a precious memory.

Christmas for older children is a time for whispering about the "secret" and realizing the meaning of this fantasy of Santa Claus. Though the mystery is gone, they are admonished to "tell no one." It is a season of exuberance in helping mom and dad plan for the younger children.

For the teen-agers, Christmas means merry parties, plenty of turkey with all the "fixin's" and a time when they may give to their friends. For older teen-agers, it affords an opportunity to give gifts to show their love for the opposite sex.

For families, it is a season of visiting, married children come home bringing the accelerated antics and capricious capers of grandchildren for the "old folks" to enjoy for a day or two. It gives grandmother an excuse to bustle around the kitchen, preparing huge dinners, and it is a time for forgetting her "diet" because she just has to "Taste to test." It gives granddad a chance to play with the grandchildren although his back may hurt for weeks aftereard from riding junior piggy-back.

Christmas for Christians can be all of this and more. With all the visiting, giving, eating, living and loving, we are just naturally drawn closer to God.

But we, as Christians and parents, have a solemn duty to teach our children the difference between the way the world celebrates Christmas and the way Christians may do it. We cannot celebrate it as Christ's birthday, because nowhere in the Bible can we find a precept or example that we are to celebrate His birth. We must live in this world and rear our children in this atmosphere of tradition, but we must teach them that we cannot be "of this world," but must be a people separate and apart from worldliness, a people "called out," who comprise "His church."

Madeline C. Brown
Connelly Springs, N. C.

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Ray Taylor, Publisher
Edward Davis, News Editor
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Devil's Color

Noyles E. Sewell
Wilmington, N. C.

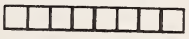
Review: We are considering some of the evil forces in the world that bear the unmistakable stamp of Satan.

The powerful and pernicious anti-Christian movements can be discussed under the color that is characteristic and appropriate of each one. In the foregoing portion of this study we considered the Satanic power of the Roman Catholic Church-State under the color of black. By the time this appears in print their long-planned effort to secure the President's chair will have succeeded or failed. In any event, we can be thankful for Christians and true Americans who crossed party lines to register their protest against the black forces of the Devil that seek the complete control of our nation. On the other hand, we are ashamed and saddened by those of our own number who have stood up to be counted with the enemy. We pray that they may gain the knowledge and conviction they so greatly need, for the battle against Black Romanism will continue as long as there is a Christian on earth.

RED in the color of Communism. Communism is a religion of materialism. Its god is the State, its scriptures are the writings of Karl Marx, and its heaven is the supposed utopia that will come with the world-wide communist state. Recently the central executive committee of Komonsol issued a brochure entitled, "The Ten Commandments of Communism." We will note a few of them so that we may gain a better idea of the nature of this powerful force of the Devil. No. 5 states, "See to it that atheist publications are widely distributed among the people." Commandment 7 says, "Wherever you can, fight religious elements and forestall any influence they might bring to bear upon your comrades." And the 10th commandment is, "If you are not a convinced atheist you cannot be a good Communist and true Soviet citizen. Atheism is insolubly tied in with Communism. Both ideals are the foundations of Soviet power." These official statements should forever settle the matter of compatibility between Christianity and Communism. Communism is thoroughly anti-Christ. I John 2:22 aptly describes it, "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is Christ. He is anti-Christ that denieth the Father and the Son."

RED Communism is based on three laws. (1) There is no God. (2) Man is just an animal. (3) Man's patterns of thought and behavior are determined by his economic environment.

In denying God, it naturally follows that Communism denies moral law and the standard of truth and righteousness which are taught in God's word. To the Communist, "peace" is synonymous with a world dominated by Communism. Thus, any act designed to further this end is a "peaceful" act. Hypocrisy becomes a science under Communism. While Communist Czechoslovakia executed Jews after a mock trial, Communists in this country were picketing the White House in protest of the death sentence meted out against the convicted traitors, Julian and Ethel Rosenberg. Could Satan be more pleased? Here is a movement that makes murder, treachery and lying, to be highly moral acts if in the interest of Communism. This destroys every basic moral value on which our civilization stands. There is no basis upon which character and integrity can negotiate with hypocrisy and treachery. There can be no fellowship between light and darkness. RED Communism is one of the greatest enemies of the Kingdom of God today, and should be so recognized and opposed by every soldier of the cross.



PLEASE NOTIFY US when you move. We want you to receive every copy.

Importance of Christ

Johnny C. Sewell
Georgetown, S. C.

Matt. 6:33, "But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Just how important is Christ to you? Is he more important than anything else? He most assuredly must be if heaven is to be our home! Some who read this article can truthfully say that nothing is as important to them as is Christ Jesus and that they would serve him even under the most adverse circumstances of severe persecution. Others who read this article may believe Jesus has first place in their lives, but if they were to be put to the test, it would become apparent that many things are more important to them than the Lord. Still others would have to say that in all honesty Christ is about the last thing on their list--the things of least importance in their lives. This of course, is pathetic and very tragic!

HOW CAN I TELL? You say, "How can I determine whether or not Christ occupies the place of importance he should, that he must if I am to go to heaven?" The best test we can give is the action examination! The Bible says, "by their fruits ye shall know them," and that "the good man out of his good treasure bringeth forth good things: and the evil man out of his evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." Matt. 7:20; 12:35.

If you are more interested in recreation, sleep and rest, entertaining company and the like than in doing the will of Christ, you have failed the test! Some rarely think of Jesus until they are sick or in other trouble and then feel that if they ask his help, he should come to their rescue. But not so! Listen to Isa. 59:2, "Behold, Jehovah's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, so that HE WILL NOT HEAR." If you want the Lord to hear and grant your prayers when you are in trouble, then put Jesus in first place all the time! Do you think of Christ only when in trouble? If so, the action test indicates Christ is far from where he ought to be in your life and the proper change must be made if heaven is to be your eternal home.

YOU CAN'T SEPARATE CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH. The Bible says, and what it says is absolutely right, that Christ is head of the body, the church! Eph. 1:22, 23. It is impossible to sever your head from your body and still maintain life. Just so with Christ. You can't separate Christ, the head, from the church, the body, in your life. For Christ to be first in importance in your life, the church must occupy the like position. But does the church Jesus built on Pentecost day have first place in your affairs? Are you a member of Christ's true church? If not, Christ is not as important to you as he should be! Do you obey Heb. 10:25 that plainly tells us not to forsake the assembly? Or, at worship time, are you more likely to be found out fishing, boating, entertaining company, going on a picnic, reading the paper and the like? There is a season and a time for everything wholesome (Eccl. 3:1), but the time for recreation, leisure and entertaining company is not at the church worship hour. If we put our fun before the worship of the church, we are in fact saying our recreation is more important than God's own Son who died to give us an OPPORTUNITY to be saved!

EXCUSES, PROMISES OR ACTION? Many are they who offer excuses for not placing Christ in his rightful place in their lives. But, bear in mind that excuses are less than useless! The Lord accepts no excuses for a failure to do his will. Matt. 25:14-30. Only bona fide reasons are valid. But you hear excuses anyway! One man says he can't come to services because of his shift work, but others who

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LEADERSHIP

HOW IMPORTANT (cont'd)

work mornings attend Sunday evening services and those who work evenings attend Sunday morning services. Another says Sunday is the only day he has to rest. My good friend, God didn't give you the Lord's Day on which to rest; he gave you the Lord's Day to serve the Lord in the Lord's own way! Still a third says he doesn't have transportation, but he gets anywhere else he wants to go and when transportation is offered he says, "I don't want to put anyone to any trouble, so just don't come for me." The truth is, he doesn't want to put himself to enough trouble to get ready to attend!

Many realize the Lord is not in his rightful place of importance in their lives and begin to make all kinds of promises to do better, especially when they get sick! Some actually keep these promises and such is to their definite credit, but others promise and never do! Their promise just becomes a means of temporarily soothing their conscience! It simply becomes another step of evasion.

Then there are those who love the Lord with all their heart, mind, body, soul and strength, who put him in first place in their lives and would sacrifice all for him and a heavenly home! Is this you...not sometime in the future... but TODAY? Just how important is Christ to you? The answer to this question will determine your eternity!

§ § § § § § § § § §

LEADERSHIP (cont'd)

13; II Tim. 2:2), working toward the fulfillment of God's purpose "that all human history shall be consumated in Christ, that everything that exists in Heaven or earth shall find its perfection and fulfillment in Him." (Eph. 1:10, Phillips Translation) When the church loses sight of this objective it ceases to be the church, no

(see page 6)

Rawden L. Bullard
Charleston, S. C.

It does not need to be argued that one of the pressing needs of the church in our time is leadership. Who has not heard, "We don't have any leaders," or "Our leaders are incompetent"? Though the expression may sometimes come from disgruntled church members, no doubt the charge is often justified. Let it be stated here that this is not an attempt to indict those men in the church who are sincerely trying to be "watchers of souls." Rather, it is hoped that what is written here will stimulate some thought that will result in action. If only one man is so stimulated these lines will not have been written in vain.

What is a leader, and how does one become a leader? At least two things are basic to leadership: (1) an objective toward which activity is directed, and (2) followers or supporters who willingly cooperate in obtaining that objective. Leadership is weakened in direct proportion as either of these basic elements is weakened. No matter how clear the objective there can be no leading without followers; no matter how numerous the followers there can be no effective leading unless both leader and followers know where they are going. These things are inherent in the word "leader."

In the work of the church the great objective, of course, is the salvation of souls. (Jno. 3:17; 17:18; Mk. 16:15, 16) The building of meeting houses, attending the services of the church, benevolent work, training classes--all church activities, though they may have or be objectives in themselves, must never be allowed to obscure or supplant the great objective. "Let all things be done unto edifying," says Paul. To edify is to build up, to grow from babes in Christ to mature Christians. But the goal of maturity is to be able to reach others (Heb. 5:12,

(see col. one)

Christmas Part II

LEADERSHIP (cont'd)

matter how "religious" it might be otherwise.

Paradoxically, a leader must himself be a follower. "Be ye followers of me," says Paul, "even as I also am of Christ." One of the few compliments Jesus ever paid was to the centurion who understood what it meant to be a follower as well as a leader. (Matt. 8:5-10). Jesus himself had to "learn" obedience (Heb. 5:8) in order that he might become the "Captain of our salvation." Heb. 2:10). The Greek word for Captain in this passage is archegos, and means "chief leader." The whole life of Jesus was one of doing God's will. The Holy Spirit, too, is both a leader (Rom. 8:14) and a follower. (Jno. 16:13, 14; Cf. I Cor. 2:10-13).

How, then, does one become a leader? In the church one becomes a leader by first becoming a follower of Christ. But this is the duty of every member of the church, you may say. Exactly so! But, you may say again, if every member of the church is following Christ, there will be no need of leaders in the church. That conclusion does not necessarily follow. The members of the church are not "like so many peas in a pod." Some are babes, some are men; some are weak, some are strong; some have great faith, some have little faith; some have ability to manage five talents, some can only manage two. But they all can follow Christ, and in doing so, because of varying abilities, some will become more proficient than others. These become "rulers" of Hebrews 13:17, which might be literally translated, "Follow your leaders, and yeild to them." How the church would grow if this were universally practiced! Churches have often erred in thinking that merely appointing a man automatically made of him a leader. No ceremony, no matter how elaborate, can endow a man with qualities he did not possess before the appointment.

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T. A. Isaacs
Charlotte, N. C.

WE STUDY NEXT THE DEVELOPEMNT OF CUSTOMS USED MUCH TODAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHRISTMAS SEASON. The Christmas season through the years developed into a time of joy, and the Scandinavians began to burn a log, called a yule log, it being the yule season. Yule comes from "Jol," from which we get our word "jolly." Hence, yule tide, or jolly time, denoting the joyfulness and festivity of the particular season of the year.

The holly and the mistletoe were considered sacred by ancient peoples. The holly was considered sacred because to them it denoted the sharp thorns of the crown that was placed on the head of Christ at His mock trial. With regard to the mistletoe the Encyclopedia Americana says, "Anciently the European species was held sacred by the Druids and the Germans." (Vol. 19, p. 262). Mistletoe was hung over the doors for good fortune. It's use today is of modern origin.

"The Christmas tree has been traced back to the Romans. It went from Germany to Great Britian, and is almost universal in the United States, where the customs of so many nationalities meet and gradually blend into common usage." (Ency. Amer., Vol. 6, p 623). Martin Luther seems to be the first to get a tree and put it in the house, and lighted it with candles, depicting lights of stars the night Jesus was born.

"The sending of Christmas cards is dereved from ancient usage, but it has become consecrated by ages, and contributes greatly to make this festival an interesting event to families." (Ency. Amer., Vol 6, p 623). Under the title "befana," the Encyclopedia Americana says with regard to the origin of gifts the following: "BEFANA, ba-fa'na (Italian, Befania, 'Epiphany'), a figure, generally representing an old

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LEADERSHIP (cont'd)

The true leaders are those who, because of the "issue of their life" are recognized (appointed) by those who have been and are willing to "imitate their faith." (Heb. 13: 7, ARV).

"A stream cannot rise above its source." And Jesus said that a disciple is not above his teacher. Similarly, a church is not any better than its leaders. We shall not have better leaders until we have better followers--followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, who as a Son was a follower of God, whose eternal purpose is the object of leadership.

CHRISTMAS (cont'd)

woman, which is exhibited in Italy on the day of Epiphany by children, or in the shops, etc., where things for children are sold. It symbolizes the ancient woman of Palestine, who, saying she would see them on their return, would not leave her household duties to view the Three Kings of the Orient passing on their way to bear their rich offerings to the infant Jesus. Unkown to Befana, they returned in a different direction, and she is supposed to be still fruitlessly waiting for them. Her influence watches over the little children who, on the eve of Epiphany, hang their stockings before the hearthfire, go to bed early and wait to hear the cry, 'Ecco La Befana," when up they jump to find the presents awarded for good behavior during the past 12 months. A stockingful of ashes is the award for bad behavior. The parallel custom in the U. S., Great Britian, Germany and Protestant communities is obviously the visit of Santa Claus of Christmas Eve." (Ency. Amer., Vol. 3, p. 442).

The idea of Santa Claus dates back to a Saint Nicholas, a bishop of Myra, so-called, in the 4th century. "The connection of his name with the giving of presents in secret is told as follows: A nobleman in the town of Patara had three daughters, but was so poor that he was unable to provide them with suitable marriage portions. He was on the point of abandoning them to a sinful course of life when St. Nicholas heard of it; and, going secretly to the nobleman's house at night, he threw a purse of gold into an open window. This fell at the feet of the father who used it for the dowry of the eldest daughter. On the second night St. Nicholas threw a second purse for the second daughter; and on the third night another for the third daughter. On this occasion the nobleman caught St. Nicholas in the act and held him by the robe. St. Nicholas made him promise that he would inform no one of his munificence. From this incident, it became the custom for the older members of the house-hold to place presents in the shoes and stockings of their young relatives, who on discovering them in the morning were pleased to attribute them to the generosity of St. Nicholas." (Ency. Amer., Vol 20, p 312). The accounts of his life are purely legendary." (Ibid.) "The Dutch settlers brought the St. Nicholas customs to N. Y., whence they spread to other parts of the U. S. and became amalgamated with the Christmas customs from other countries. The American "Santa Claus" is a corruption of the Dutch St. Nicholas. 'Santa Claus,' writes McKnight, 'the name derived from St. Nicholas through the familiar use of children in Teutonic countries, crossed to America. The exact route followed by him is somewhat open to question. On the way he traded his grey horse or ass for a reindeer and made changes in his appearance. In America, he has made himself very much at home; and, according to the explanation most generally accepted, from America he recrossed the Atlantic to England, whence he has journeyed to the most distant parts of the British Empire, to India and to Australia, where he is as familiarly known as in America.'" (Ency. Amer., Vol 20, p. 313) Santa Claus, then, is nothing more or less than a symbolic figure denoting the spirit of giving, and which is a joyful conception in the minds of the tots of the earlier

(see page 8)

CHRISTMAS (cont'd)

years. He is no more to be considered a lie than "old Mother Hubbard," "Jack-in-the-bean-stalk," or any other legendary figure.

THE BIBLE IS AN ALL SUFFICIENT GUIDE. Paul wrote these words as recorded in II Tim. 3:16, 17: "Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness: that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work." The Bible tells us what we should do, and we must not go beyond it as our spiritual guide or blueprint, for John said, "Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God: he that abideth in the teaching, the same hath both the Father and the Son." The Bible relates the birthday of Christ, but EXTENDS NO MAN-DATE as to the celebration of His birthday. It is therefore sinful to place religious significance on Christmas for it is encroaching upon God's Word. To place religious significance on it is but to pursue the traditions of men.

Let us notice some rules to follow so as not to cause others to think that we are religiously observing Christmas: REFRAIN FROM (1) special services or engaging in the performance of anything bespeaking Christ's birthday other than what ordinarily might be called to mind, whether in July or any other time. (2) Refrain from singing so-called Christmas carols at services at that time of year, or from going about from house to house doing the same, (those of a religious nature). We may understand what we are doing, but others do not. (3) Refrain from sending greeting cards depicting religious scenes, or religious sentiment. It is possible to send greetings without sending those of a religious nature.

BUT NOW, AS TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE DAY PURELY FROM A SECULAR STANDPOINT. Although originally religious, the Christmas season has developed down through the years certain social aspects apart from the religious observance and significance. If we are not to observe it religiously, may we observe it at all? In only by exchange of gifts, pretty lights, Christmas trees, exchanging of non-religious greeting cards, etc.

We must first of all clarify this question: "May we observe ANY day that has been set aside for secular and non-religious purposes?" Is it wrong to observe the 4th of July, Labor Day, etc.? In Galations 4:10, where Paul condemns the keeping of days, Paul is speaking of special days made HOLY, or holy days. The specific references were to the special days of the law of Moses. If we could not observe ANY special day we could not observe our own birthday, (and some have ceased doing so). Hence, it is proper to observe special days secularly, if no moral wrong is involved, and no religious significance is attached thereto. Our undeniable conclusion then is that we may observe Christmas, if only in a SECULAR WAY.

The observance of Christmas as a social time of cheer to the exclusion of religious significance falls wholly and simply in the realm of personal judgment.

If observing Christmas purely from a social standpoint violates your conscience, then leave it alone, but be consistent in NON-OBSERVANCE. Do not forbid one thing and then turn right around and do something just like it. For example, do not tell your child there "ain't no such fellow as you know who," and then turn around and tell him fairy tales.

CONCLUSION: To observe it religiously is sinful, and we must take care not to engage in religious activities emphasizing the religious ideas of Christmas. To observe it purely from a social aspect is a matter of judgment and is left to the discretion of the individual. As an event which binds family ties closer, and which, as we grow older, teaches us the blessedness of giving, let us enjoy the occasion. But to attach religious significance, based on speculation, to it, we cannot and be pleasing to God.

News

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Evangelist

There have been ten responses to the invitation since our last report, including three baptisms and seven restorations. Recently, 72 attended the Sunday Bible classes, the largest number to attend since my coming. Brother Senn, minister of the Duncan church, will hold our meeting in the Spring. Interest seems to be at its highest.

VALDESE, N. C.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist

We have had two to place membership this month. During October we averaged 41 in Bible Study, 47 in Sunday morning worship, 23 in Sunday night service, and 20 in Wednesday night service. The contributions averaged $121.05.

UNION, S. C.
Shirley M. Ham, Reporting

James S. McDonald, Jr., minister of the Union congregation, will begin work with the congregation in Melbourne, Florida at the end of December. We are sure he will be an asset to any congregation. Although no replacement has been found, we hope to have a preacher by the end of December. This congregation moved into its new building on July 24th. We now meet on 176 By-Pass at Buffalo Road. The elders set a new goal of 125 for Bible study and a new budget of $200 per week.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

On November 13th the church here entered its new building. There

WHITEVILLE continued:

were 70 present for the first service. A preacher is sorely needed for this work.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

We have little to report this month. We have a men's training class in progress that is accomplishing much good in developing the talent of the brethren. We have transferred title to our bus to the Northeast congregation of Greenville, S. C. May their use of it result in much good being done for the Lord.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
J. W. Brents, Guest Reporter
1602 Burton Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee

It is an interesting bit of news to learn that Leslie G. Thomas, who labored for several years in Knoxville, Tennessee, is moving to Asheville, N. C. to work with the Vance Street church. I have known Leslie from his boyhood. We have no purer, better man than he, nor a better writer. For some years he has written the advanced quarterly in the Gospel Advocate series. He is also the author of some 7 books. He will be a great power for good. Sister Thomas is all that could be asked for in a preacher's wife. They have one son. We welcome this great family to the Carolinas. My love to you who work in this mission field.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray D. Fullerton, Evangelist

Thus far this year there have been fifteen baptisms plus several restorations and identifications. Since our July meeting with Johnny Ramsey, we have bap-

GOLDSBORO continued:

tized five. In the eleven weeks thus far in September, October and November our Bible study attendance has averaged 142. We now offer ten Sunday morning Bible classes and every room in our new building is occupied. In 1960 contributions have averaged $141.74 per week. Four weeks ago we began the Dial-A-Devotion and response has far exceeded our expectations. We feel the goodwill generated by this will more than repay its cost. We recommend its consideration by other churches. Our next meeting will be with T. Lloyd Cannon, Texas City, the date to be fixed later. Let us continue to give consideration to various proposals for encouraging workers and support for the Carolinas.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

We set a new record in contribution this month. Our collection was $100.10 on November 6th. On that same Sunday we had 100% attendance of the members. We recently purchased a bus to be used in the work here.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

Our fall meeting was conducted by Ernest Thigpen, October 31 - November 9th. Several visitors were present to hear these fine lessons. One was restored during the meeting. Just before the meeting one was restored and one was baptized. The parking lot and driveway around the building was recently paved at a cost of $500. Christians here gave generously to make this possible.

HIGH POINT, N. C.
Olan Hicks, Evangelist

The Lord has richly blessed the work in High Point recently. We are now struggling with a problem that every church likes to have -- overflowing attendance. Our normal capacity is 125, but we have exceeded this number recently. Last month, James Swafford preached in a meeting here. The building was nearly filled every night. Five were baptized and five restored. Since January 1st, 26 have been baptized. and 12 restored. Our numerical growth has been so fast that our material growth has not kept pace. Optimism and enthusiasm are at a peak here. We have been using filmstrips in teaching the members and non-Christians in cottage-meetings.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Fairview Congregation
Raymond Smith, Reporting

During October our average attendance was 34; average contribution was $33.65. Bro. Thomas H. Burton, from Nashville, Tennessee, just completed a gospel meeting with wonderful results. There were two baptisms and 2 restorations. Average attendance was 43, with 108 present at the singing. Progress is being seen in our building program. We are still seeking a minister to work full-time with the church. Those interested should contact J. D. Smith, 407 Balsom Street, Spartanburg, S. C.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Oscar P. Craft, Reporting

We closed a very fine meeting on October 23rd, with John McCoy of Brownfield, Texas. No responses were seen during the meeting but

FAYETTEVILLE continued:

since then, we have had one baptism and one restoration. This church recently established a church for the colored. First meeting was on November 13th.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
Joe Costilow, Evangelist

Bro. Wm. Wilder, who worked with the Rocky Mount congregation for the past five years, is now with the Floyd Avenue church in Memphis. His address is 3646 Terrace Drive, Memphis 7, Tenn. On October 20, we arrived in this city from Dayton, Texas to begin work with this church. Although we have little to report at present we are looking forward with a great deal of anticipation to our service here. Our mailing address is P. O. Box 1374, Rocky Mount, N. C. We reside at 701 Sycamore. We would like to exchange bulletins and other correspondence with anyone interested.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Harold L. Scott, Evangelist

Three cottage classes per week have been conducted by men of the congregation this month using filmstrips. The first Ladies Bible class met this month to begin a course of study and work together. The women will do sewing for the needy, for orphans' homes and visit the sick and new comers. The young peoples' class and chorus in which the Abilene church also shares, is a very satisfying part of the work here. They plan a trip to the local home for the aged to sing hymns. Average attendance this month for Sunday morning worship was 181; for evening worship, 108. Contribution exceeded the budget

STATESVILLE continued:

for the month, and was the highest of the year during October.

GEORGETOWN, S. C.
Johnny C. Sewell, Evangelist

There have been 14 baptisms and 10 identifications thus far in 1960. We have conducted a spring meeting with Bob Plunkett, and a combination summer meeting and VBS with Glenn Killom, of Cookeville, Tennessee. Our membership now stands at 69. Contributions averaged $ 109 during the past two months, as compared to $ 76 for the same period a year ago. Average attendance for all services has increased 25 or 30 over the same period last year.

CHESTER, S. C.
Tom Bolick, Evangelist

The baptism of a middle-aged man here recently united a husband and wife in Christ. The work is growing more than ever before. We are not yet self-supporting, but hope to grow in this respect in the very near future. God has blessed this work in many ways.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.
South Fork Congregation
C. W. Bradley, Evangelist

In 1960 thus far, 18 have been baptized and 11 have moved in to work with us. Six have left us. Recently, we purchased two lots across the street from our present building to use for future expansion. During October the three congregations in this area cooperated in providing a booth at the Dixie Class Fair in this city. Hundreds of people stopped by and received free tracts. We believe much good was done.



NEW BUILDING FOR WHITEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

On November 13, the Whiteville, North Carolina congregation met for the first time in their new building. The building stands on the extreme back of a large corner lot and faces a side street. Its dimensions are 52 x 22 containing a rest room, two class rooms and an auditorium which will seat 100. The building is designed to be completed into an 8-room preacher's home.

Gastonia, N. C. - James Lewis reporting

We were all very sorry to see Bro. Reynolds and family move to Waltertown, Tenn. They are missed in many ways by each of us. However, we wish for them every success with the congregation there. The men of our congregation are doing well substituting and our attendance has been good during this period. Plans are unfolding for our future progress and we have every expectation that our future will be a bright one.

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* Many of you have asked how you can help *
* with the Messenger. Please send a copy *
* of your membership directory to Harold *
* Scott. The only use that will be made of it *
* will be to contact them about subscribing *
* to the paper. Please do this! *
****
****
* REMEMBER - Please send the informa- *
* tion for the 1961 Carolina Directory to *
* Bill Smith, Box 72, Valdese, N. C. *
****

Don't forget the Special Jan. Issue on 'The Ten Most Often Asked Questions About The Church Of Christ.' Use it as a tract.

Carolina
MESSENGER of TRUTH
JANUARY 1961

10

MOST FREQUENT QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

"Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you." - Peter

1 WHY DOESN'T THE CHURCH OF CHRIST USE INSTRUMENTS OF MUSIC IN WORSHIP?

By Chester A. Hunnicutt, Cherokee, North Carolina

WALKING BY FAITH. "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (II Cor. 5:7). Christianity is a religion of faith. All acceptable service to God depends upon a proper understanding and appreciation of this vital principle. If we had the proper appreciation of the Word of God, we would never have to preach against such subjects as instrumental music in worship.

Many skeptics attempt to discredit the Bible because its religion is purely of faith. When a person disregards the Bible by adding innovations he is walking by opinion and puts himself in the class with the skeptic. Worship must be of faith to please God.

1. Faith Defined In Distinction to Opinion. Read Rom. 10:17. This settles how faith comes; it comes by hearing the Word of God. Where there is no Word of God there is no faith. This is not an opinion of man; it is the teaching of God.

Since we are to "walk by faith," and "without faith it is impossible to please God," (Heb. 11:6) it follows that in any matter in which we are not directed by the Word of God, we are neither walking by faith or pleasing to God.

2. What Is It To Walk By Opinion? In John 3:1-5 we learn that Nicodemus came to Jesus by night. Why he came by night is not revealed therefore it is in the realm of opinion. Opinion is what men think, not what the Bible says. In Matt. 2:1 it is stated that wise men came to see Jesus. How many wise men? Two or three would be a matter of opinion. Deut. 29:29 says that the secret things belong to God. Why He did not see fit to include instrumental music in worship belongs to God.

VAIN WORSHIP. (Matt. 15:9). "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Why were these Scribes and Pharisees worshipping in vain? Because they were doing, as religious service, things which God had not commanded. Even a small thing as washing hands, sinless outside of religious service, is sinful if performed as an act of worship. The playing of instruments is perfectly all right but is sinful if used in worship.

SOME APPLICATIONS OF THESE PRINCIPLES. God, through Samuel, commanded King Saul to utterly destroy the Amalekites. Saul brought back King Agag and spared the best of the sheep and cattle. He followed his own judgment and was condemned for it. The prophet told Saul, "Behold to obey is better than sacrifice and to harken than the fat of rams."

Numbers 16 tells about Korah and Dathan taking authority that did not belong to them and they burned incense. They chose 250 principal men to side with them. The earth opened up and swallowed them.

Is it wrong to baptize infants? If so, why? Not because it is wrong to apply water to infants but because God nowhere commanded it. He did command penitent believers to be baptized. Is it wrong to play an instrument? There is nothing wrong if it is an act outside of worship. Many good people misunderstand this. They argue that since it is so attractive they cannot see any harm in it. God is not opposed to it on this ground but for some reason He chose singing instead. See Eph. 5:19 and Col. 3:16.

It is sometimes argued from Rev. 5:8 & 14:2 that there will be instrumental music in heaven. There will also be infant membership and "golden bowls of incense." If God wants such music there it is His right just as it is His right to leave it out of the church.

It isn't new for people to get tired of God's way and substitute their own ways. Mosheim tells us that Christian worship consisted of hymns, prayers, the reading of the scripture, a discourse to the people and the Lord's Supper. (Mosheim, Vol. 1, p. 303. But in the 2nd and 3rd centuries the seed of general perversion of God's order was sown. (II Thess. 2:7). Pope Vitalian is related to have first introduced

organs into some of the churches of Western Europe about 670. (Amer. Ency.) But Chamber's Ency. gives the date 666. John Calvin says, "Musical instruments in celebrating the praises of God would be no more suitable than the burning of incense, the lighting of lamps and the restoration of the other shadows of the law."

OBJECTION CONSIDERED. There is no specific command for carpets, pews, pulpits and baptisteries and if it is not wrong to have these neither is it wrong to have instrumental music. If these were a part of the worship they would be equally wrong. It is wrong to do anything as worship to God which He does not command. The command to baptize implies a place. It can be in the river, creek, pond, bath tub, or a baptistery. Since the command is to baptize in water, it may be hot, cold, clear or muddy. But water is necessary to carry out the command. Playing an instrument is not necessary.

Let me say in conclusion that those who adopt this practice (of using the instrument in worship) are guided by the wisdom of men and not by God. They openly violate the plain and positive requirement of the Lord that his followers shall walk by faith.

2 DO YOU BELIEVE ONLY MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST ARE RIGHT OR WILL BE SAVED?

By Nelson M. Smith, Kinston, North Carolina

These are, in reality, two questions and can only be answered as such. As to being right it needs only be said that no man is right except as he follows the word of God.

As to the second, what I believe will affect no man's destiny but my own except to the extent another may follow my belief. But if the question be phrased, "Does the Bible teach that only members of the church of Christ will be saved?" that is a different thing. If all, in whose mind this question may be, will allow the New Testament to establish the concept of the church in their thinking there will be no difficulty in answering it satisfactorily.

Let us seek an answer to this question by asking more questions. Did Jesus intend to build a church? Yes. (Matt. 16:18). Did he do it? Yes. First, he said the gates of hell would not prevail against it. (Matt. 16:18). This certainly included the building of it as well as its perpetuity. Second, Paul speaks of it as an accomplished fact: "... which (church) he (Christ) hath (already accomplished) purchased with his own blood." (Acts 20:28).

Of what or whom is the church composed? The saved. "The Lord added to the church daily such as were being saved." (Acts 2:47). That is, the saved were added to the church. So the church is composed of the saved. Again, Christ purchased the church with his blood. (Acts 20:28). Therefore the church is composed of those bought with His blood. But we are saved by His blood. To this all agree. Again we see that the church is composed of the saved. Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved..." (Mk. 16:16). But all are baptized into one body (body is the church, Col. 1:18) according to I Cor. 12:13. Therefore, all the saved (they who believe and are baptized) become members of the church. Question: Whose church is this spoken of in the New Testament? If one believes the word of God the only answer is: Christ's!

Again, "... He is the savior of the body." (Eph. 5:23). Remember, the body is the church. (Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22, 23). Whose body is this of which Christ is the savior? Can any deny that it is His body? His church? The Bible is plain in its teaching as to church membership. Our difficulty seems to be in not accepting the authority of God's word or of having an unscriptural concept of the church.

In all fairness allow me to say that I do not believe that any one can be saved by being a member of a denomination, no matter what that denomination may call itself. But the Bible clearly teaches that

one must be a member of the church that Jesus bought with his own precious blood. Remember, Jesus died on the cross that he might reconcile all men unto God in ONE BODY! (Eph. 2:16, the body is the church). Can a man be saved without being reconciled to God?

3 WHEN, WHERE AND BY WHOM DID THE CHURCH OF CHRIST BEGIN?

By Jimmy Dorris, Barnwell, South Carolina

Every religious organization was founded by some individual or group of individuals at some given place and at some given time. The church of the New Testament was built by Jesus Christ himself. Following Peter's confession of faith in Jesus as the Son of God, Jesus said, "And I say also unto thee that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. 16:18).

Since Jesus is the founder of the true church, this means that the true church was not founded by Abraham, Moses, John the Baptist or any other person. The very announcement of his plans indicates that he meant to build only one church. Later when thinking of all who would believe on him, Jesus prayed for their unity saying: "That they all may be one..." (John 17:21).

When Jesus said, "I will build my church," he was not talking about any denomination, but about the undenominational kingdom of Christ, the spiritual body of Christ. This kingdom was not established during Jesus' personal ministry, but much was said about it being "at hand." Jesus taught his disciples for three years to prepare them to serve in his kingdom. Then the church or kingdom began "with power" on the Sunday or Lord's day called Pentecost, fifty days after the Sabbath when Jesus was in the tomb. In fulfillment of prophecy such as Isaiah 2:2- 3, we have the beginning of the New Testament church belonging to the Lord Jesus Christ. (Col. 1:18; Eph. 2:19-22). Thus the church of our Lord came into existence in the city of Jerusalem on the first Pentecost following the resurrection, in the presence of "devout men out of every nation under heaven," under the inspired preaching of Simon Peter according to God's eternal plan. (Acts 2).

These beginning events transpired in Jerusalem in Palestine. This city was also known as the "holy city" indicating the importance attached to it as a city. It was the capitol of the Hebrew world, the symbol of all the glory and power exhibited in the days of David and Solomon. Its main importance to the Christian however is that it was the beginning place of the church of Christ even as Isaiah foretold that "out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Thus the first converts to Christ through the gospel were made in Jerusalem on that Sunday of Pentecost nearly 2,000 years ago. (Acts 2:47).

From these considerations we note the answer to when, where and by whom did the church of Christ begin:

When: Sunday, the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Jesus.

Where: The city of Jerusalem in Palestine.

By Whom: The Lord Jesus Christ.

4 DOES THE CHURCH OF CHRIST TEACH THAT A PERSON MUST BE BAPTIZED TO BE SAVED?

By Darrell E. Beard, Aberdeen, North Carolina

In answering this question let us point out that the church of Christ has no gov-

erning body or agent which decides the faith or practice of the church. Our plea is for man to look to the Bible, the only standard of authority, and follow its teachings in every particular.

The moot (discussion) question then is not: "What do you or I teach about baptism?" but "Does the Bible command baptism in order to salvation?"

DOES THE BIBLE COMMAND BAPTISM? In sending out his apostles with the great commission Jesus said, "Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matt. 28:19).

In discharging their duties, the inspired teachers of the first century commanded their hearers to be baptized. Concerning Peter the scriptures say, "And he commanded them (household of Cornelius) to be baptized in the name of the Lord." (Acts 10:48). When Ananias came to Saul of Tarsus he told him to "arise, and be baptized." (Acts 22:16). When the people of Samaria believed the preaching of Philip, they were baptized. (Acts 8:12). In Philippi there was a woman named Lydia who "gave heed unto the things which were spoken by Paul. And...she was baptized ..." (Acts 16:14, 15). When the same apostle preached in Corinth "many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized." (Acts 18:8).

We can see that baptism was commanded, but is it necessary in order to obtain forgiveness of past sins?

DESIGN OR PURPOSE OF BAPTISM. A person must be baptized:

1. to have remission of his sins. Acts 2: 38-"Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of sins..."
2. to have his sins washed away. Acts 22: 16-"Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name."
3. to be saved. I Pet. 3:21-"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth now also save us..."
4. to be a son of God, to be in Christ, to put on Christ. Gal. 3:26, 27-"For ye are all the sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ."
5. to boey in a form the doctrine of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Rom. 6:17, 18. cf. vs. 3-6.

Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned." (Mk. 16: 16). Some argue that because He did not say, "He that believeth not and is not baptized shall be condemned," baptism is non-essential. But observe that this is not necessary, for if a person doesn't believe he won't be baptized. In every case of New Testament conversion baptism stands between a man and salvation.

The Bible teaches that a person must be baptized in order to be saved.

5 WHAT IS THE CHURCH OF CHRIST?

By C. W. Bradley, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

In response to Peter's confession, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," our Savior expressed his purpose to build his church, "Upon this rock I will build my church." (Matt. 16:18). A few years later, the Apostle Paul wrote a letter to the Romans, in which he said, "All the churches of Christ salute you." (Rom. 16: 16). Thus we have full assurance that the Lord fulfilled his purpose.

Since Christ is both the builder and owner of his church, then is it not logical to turn to his word for enlightenment concerning the church of Christ? Study carefully the following plain facts regarding the church that Jesus built:

1. The church of Christ is the body of Christ over which he rules. "He is the head of the body, the church." (Col. 1: 18).
2. The church of Christ is very precious in the mind of him who built it. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it." (Eph. 5:25).
3. The church of Christ is that which

Christ saves. "For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, being himself the saviour of the body." (Eph. 5:23).

4. The church of Christ is that to which the Lord adds all the saved. "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:47).

What is the church of Christ? It is the body which Christ loves, for which he died, over which he rules, to which he adds all the saved. THE CHURCH IS THE SAVED. When a sinner has met the requirements of the Lord to have his sins forgiven, he is added to the church of Christ. Since the Lord does the adding, no mistakes are made. Salvation from sin and membership in Christ's church are brought about at the same time. The church doesn't save; the church is the saved.

The word, "church," in our English N. T. comes from the Greek word, "Ecclesia," which means "the called out." The church is a "called out" group of people. Peter expressed this idea when he wrote, "But ye are an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." (I Peter 2:9). The church of Christ are those people who have been called out of darkness into God's marvelous light. God's method of calling is through the gospel, "Wherefore he called you through the gospel." (II Thess. 2:14). The gospel is God's power to save. (Rom. 1:16). Christ charged his apostles, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15). Whenever and wherever sinners hear the gospel of Christ, believe and obey it, they become a part of this "called out" group, which is the church of Christ.

From this brief study, we must conclude that the church of Christ is completely undenominational. It is composed of all the saved in all the world, and it is against the will of the Lord for these people to be divided into denominational groups. Today when much is being said about religious unity, men need to open their New Testaments and learn what the church of Christ is. When we study the book of Acts to observe the spread of the church in the first century, we cannot get the idea that Peter preached in Jerusalem, establishing a certain denomination, that Paul established a different kind in Ephesus, and that Philip started still a different one in Samaria. These congregations were of the same faith and practice.

Much of the confusion that exists today in the field of religion results from a false definition and understanding of the church. Let us forsake the doctrines of men and return to God's way of making the church. In this way we can have a New Testament church in our town today just like the one we read about in the Scriptures.

6 WHERE ARE THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, AND HOW CAN IT EXIST AND CARRY ON ITS WORK WITHOUT A GOVERNING BOARD, CONFERENCE OR CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS?

By James A. Davis, Hendersonville, North Carolina

An Oft Repeated Question

When someone asks, as people often do, "Where is the headquarters of the church of Christ?" and the answer is given, "It has no earthly headquarters anywhere!" there follows in utter amazement the next question, "Well how can it exist and carry on its work without a central conference to direct its affairs?" There are so many people who simply cannot imagine any organization being able to function and grow without some central coordinating headquarters. These questions proceed from a lack of understanding that churches of Christ are not organically connected because in following the plan of organization

VOLUME III

We are happy to see the beginning of our third year of publication of the "Messenger." To those who expected to see the death of the paper before now we can only say that we are not sorry that you were incorrect. If there has been any honor in this work, we do hereby, officially, transfer said honor to "God the Judge of all."

We wish not to forget those who have worked hard to make this effort somewhat of a success. Brother John Avants (and his family, too) is to be commended for founding and publishing the "Messenger" until bad health forced him to give up the work. Dabney Phillips is to be remembered for his work in increasing the circulation. Perhaps the best compliment that could be paid to those who now faithfully work to bring you the paper each month is the fruit of their hands. Is not the finished product the best compliment of all? Can it ever be taken away or ever be insincere? When you see and read the paper, you surely, in some measure, realize the interest these people have. Not one receives any financial remuneration. Presently, all procedes from the "Messenger" must be used just to provide materials, machinery, etc.

This high compliment is paid to our present crew: Ed Davis, Harold Scott, Ray E. Taylor, Gene Hicks, Martha Moon, Ginny Gregory, Evelyn Curtis, Carl Lancaster, and Helen Taylor. Add to this list all the writers, and especially staff writers, who have graciously provided ample material to be published. With this type of voluntary teamwork this publication can go on indifinitely.

What does the future hold? Certainly, we do not know. Our purpose is to continue to provide a publication with all the good it can do for the Carolinas. Improvements will be made as time and money permit. At times some have been impatient. Does not every one know where some improvements could be made? But, generally speaking, no one could be found who had the time and money to make these improvements.

TAILOR MADE

Here is part of a letter we received: "In our business meeting Monday night, we decided to order 50 copies of the January issue for personal work here. Thanks for the vision to put out something like this! It's tailor made for this field." Thanks, for the compliment, but we thought this comment was amusing. Helen, the wife of publisher, Ray Taylor, said that it certainly was "Taylor-made."

DIRECTORY POSTPONED

Bill Smith reports that there will be an approximate 30 day delay in the 1961 Directory. Some of the information has not been received and extra efforts are being made to gather it. It seems better to be sure to make the directory as complete as possible and to postpone the publication to February 1961

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

Vol. III January 1961 No. 1

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Ray Taylor, Publisher
Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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News

CHEROKEE, N. C.
Chester A. Hunnicutt, Evangelist

The first step in securing a lot to build our church building has been taken. Two more steps must be made. The Indian chief and his 12 councilmen and the government agency must pass before we can have permission to build. We are now meeting in an old saw mill building. We had 83 in attendance last Sunday. We are in need of a building badly.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
Joe Costilow, Evangelist

In the past nine weeks since our coming to Rocky Mount there have been no additions to the church. The membership remains at 20 and the average attendance is still 24 for Bible class, 27 for morning worship, 17 for evening worship and 14 for midweek service. The high attendance during this period was 35 and the low attendance was 9. There has been one significant and encouraging change, however. The weekly contribution, which had averaged $ 75.00 through October 17th has since then averaged just over $ 102.00. In addition to this, the brethren have added $ 50.00 in a special contribution. During the coming year the brethren expect this to increase. At a business meeting on December 18, a budget calling for a weekly contribution of $ 121.00 was adopted. Beginning the first Sunday in January the church will put into effect an expanded program of Bible class work. Instead of three classes on Sunday morning, we will have five, and instead of one class on Wednesday evening, there will be two. This new program also calls for five classes on Wednesday in the very near future. In November we ran an ad under Personals in the classified section of the local newspaper. In it we requested all who were interested in a weekly home Bible class to call. As a result of this ad we are now conducting a weekly Bible class for colored people in the home of one of the ladies that called. There were five present the first night, three the second. The temperature was well below freezing the second night, and seven people sent word they would not be there but wanted their lesson sheets for the next class. On the basis of what we observed so far, we expect this class to grow. After the holidays we will redouble our effort to establish a class for white people through this same medium.

ROCKY MOUNT continued:

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Every member of this congregation gets a copy of the "Messenger." We have lost one family, making our total number and our attendance five less than usual. Despite this fact, we have had average attendance for the past month. The ladies of this congregation are working on plans to set aside one night each week for a visitation program. We plan to visit members who aren't present on Sundays. Visitors who

VALDESE continued:

attend our services and various others will also be visited. By dividing our group into sections of two each, we can visit three families each week. We are using colored film strips and slides to portray the lesson on Sunday nights. The minister, Bro. Bill G. Smith, prepared a commentary on the lesson and presents it on tape with each showing. Our aim is to have 55 present on Sunday mornings, 40 on Sunday and Wednesday night, and 100 percent daily Bible readers. The closest we have come thus far is 53 on Sunday morning, 29 on Sunday nights, and 80 percent daily Bible readers.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Curl Curtis, Evangelist

We rejoice to have had 3 responses to the invitation in December. On the 4th two were baptized, and on the 18th, one was restored. This congregation has committed $ 200 toward the tent meeting with the Fogarty brothers in Greenville next summer.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Bill Perkins, Evangelist

The Warner's Chapel congregation had its 2nd highest Bible class and worship attendance ever on December 18, climaxing a special drive. Personal workers carried out organized visiting in subfreezing weather. Four have been restored recently. The elders have announced an expanded program of work for the next year. Included are plans for a census, to be coupled with special mailing during the year. I will be attending the Abilene lectures this year, and hope to contact brethren to ask for assistance for the Carolinas. If you wish me to present your appeal, sned me the information.

CLEMMONS continued:

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Fairview Congregation
Ray Smith, Reporting

Average attendance for November was 29; average contribution was $ 54.49. We have begun a men's class, for which considerable interest has been seen. Our new furnace has just been installed. A class in personal work is now underway.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray D. Fullerton, Evangelist

In 1960 seventeen persons were baptized at Goldsboro and eighteen were baptized. Contributions averaged thus far $ 145.22 per week. Bible school attendance averaged 115 per week, Sunday morning worship averaged 122 and Sunday night attendance was 98. On December 3 our heating plant suffered severely from an electrical fire, covered fully by insurance but inconveniencing the church consideranly. May we recommend the Dial-A-Devotion to you. More goodwill has been seen through this work than from any other similar effort we have made. Write for more information.

This issue may be purchased for a tract. See the back page for prices.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

During the past month the church here began a visitation program and a pantry of non-perishable foods for the needy. Christians who have volunteered will visit absentee members, visitors who attend the services and the Home For the Aged, each week. We expect to see much good results. Recently one was baptized, and one placed membership.

UNION, S. C.
Shirley Ham, Reporting

Brother Karl W. Peltin, Jr. will begin work with the church here on December 12th. The church is looking forward to working with him. Bro. Chester Hunnicutt is to worship with the church here on December 28, to show films of the work that is being done in the Cherokee Indian Reservation. The Dial-A-Devotion is constantly being used in Union.

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Evangelist

We came to Hickory the last of June 1960. Since that time considerable progress has been seen in the work. Nine have been baptized into Christ. Our meeting was held in October with Brother Doyle Karraker from River Rouge, Michigan preaching. One was baptized during that meeting. Attendance and contribution are on the upswing. Hickory is now on a self-supporting basis.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street Congregation
Harold L. Scott, Evangelist

Men from Abilene and Broad St. congregations met Sunday to lay plans to establish the church in Taylorsville, N. C. Four men were appointed to go to Taylorsville and find a suitable meeting place. Worship services will begin there on Sunday afternoons when a meeting place is found. The search for a preacher has begun. Financial support will be arranged as the Abilene and Broad Street congregations plan their budgets for 1961. Two families who are members of the church live in Taylorsville now. Some of the ladies of the church here are making quilt tops for the Philippine Bible College.

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ATTENTION

1961 CAROLINA LECTURES

DURANT AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Durant Avenue at Chesterfield Road

North Charleston, South Carolina

March 13 - 17

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USE THIS ISSUE AS A TRACT! WE HAVE arranged this copy so that you may remove the news, thus giving the person only the articles. Just tear along the perforated lines. We have numbered only the pages of articles. Reprints of this issue will continue to be available at the prices listed on the back cover.

given in the N. T. they are autonomous. This simply means that each congregation is a self-contained unit in so far as government and direction of affairs are concerned. Yet, churches of Christ are the same the world over because of their loyalty to the common tie which binds them together; they accept the N. T. as an all-sufficient guide which is authoritative in all matters concerning the church.

The New Testament Pattern of Organization. In Eph. 1:22, 23 we learn that Christ is the supreme head "over all things to the church, which is his body." Acting under the direct authority of Christ, Matt. 28: 18-20, the apostles went into the whole world and established churches, organizing them according to the commands of Christ. From Acts 14:23 we get the approved apostolic example of ordaining elders in every church. "And when they had ordained them elders in every church ..." The qualifications of these elders, and the nature of their work, is given in I Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:1-9. There is no other office in the church which is superior to the eldership, and Peter admonished elders in I Peter 5:1-4 to be diligent in their work as spiritual shepherds and the younger members he admonished to be subject to them, I Pet. 5:5. The qualifications of deacons are given in I Tim. 3: 8-13. These men are to serve under the direction of the elders and to assist them in their work.

The inspired Paul recognized this pattern of organization in Phil. 1:1 when he addressed the saints, bishops (elders), deacons of the church in Philippi. In all the N. T. there is no deviation from this divine pattern, and nowhere is there any indication that one congregation had any jurisdiction over another. In their work of restoring the New Testament church the churches of Christ today follow this same pattern of organization and maintain complete independence of one another in government and authority. In every fully organized church of Christ the elders oversee the work of deacons, evangelists, teachers and all other Christians.

Another Question

Following the above explanation there is always another question, "Does not this complete independence of one another isolate the individual churches to such an extent that their power and influence is shackled?" Actually the very opposite is true. Churches of Christ are growing rapidly throughout the world today and the centuries have proved that the N. T. pattern or organization is quite practical. It is most important to understand that in following the divine pattern there is not a lack of organization at all, but rather a very efficient and smooth working arrangement which is superior to any system of control that men might devise. And, be it understood that complete autonomy does not prohibit full fellowship, and voluntary cooperation of churches of Christ in the all-important work of saving the lost and nuturing the saved.

N. T. examples show that the early churches shared with one another the burdens, responsibilities and glories of Christ's cause of earth. I Cor. 16:1-3 reveals that they cooperated in relieving the sufferings of their poor. Paul commended the Philippian church for supporting him financially while he preached in Thessalonica, Phil. 4:16. Acts 11:22 shows that the Jerusalem church was vitally interested in the cause at Antioch and sent Barnabas there to strengthen and encourage the new church in that city. There are many modern day instances of mutual cooperation and fellowship based on these scriptural examples.

Autonomy A Sacred Trust

The work of restoration is not finished until the autonomy of the local congregation is established and maintained. The great apostacy begun in the first century was consumated in a complete change in church government, and Paul warned that souls would be lost by cooruption of leadership, Acts 20:28-31. This autonomy of

the N. T. church is a sacred trust of every Christian. I John 1:7 urges us, ". . . walk in the light as he is in the light and we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Christ cleanseth us from all sin."

7 WHAT DENOMINATION IS IT? WHAT DENOMINATION DID IT BRANCH OUT OF?

By Bill G. Smith, Valdese, North Carolina

"The most general use of 'Denomination' is for a body of persons holding specific opinions, usually religious, and having a common name, or for the various 'sects' into which members of a common faith may be divided. 'Denominationalism' is thus the principle of emphasizing the distinctions, rather than the common ground, in the faith held by different bodies professing one sort of religious belief." (Enc. Britannica, Vol. 7, p. 217).

We do not hear of denominationalism until the Protestant Reformation at which time the Lutheran church was started by man in 1530 with its own creed and set of rules. After this more divisions occurred and the result was the Presbyterian church in 1536, Baptist 1611, Methodist 1739, Episcopal 1789 and on and on until today we have 300 different religious denominations. With this type of confusion and division we can see why a person would ask the above question.

The Bible teaches unity when it comes to the matter of the church, for example note (Amos 3:3), "Shall two walk together, except they have agreed?" Paul states in Eph. 4:3-6, "Giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as also ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all." Read also Eph. 1:22, 23.

In writing to Corinth Paul condemns division and the practice of using man made names. I Cor. 1:10 states, "Now I beseech you, brethren, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfected together in the same mind and in the same judgment." Paul was beseeching these people to be one in Christ. He said it's wrong to be divided (verses 12, 13), "Now this I mean, that each one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized into the name of Paul?" People who are promoting denominationalism should stop and consider prayerfully the question of Paul, "Is Christ divided?" The answer of course is, "NO," which puts Christ in opposition to the theory of "many churches."

In fact, Jesus prayed in John 17:20, 21 for unity. "Neither for these only do I pray, but for them also that believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us: that the world may believe that thou didst send me."

What Denomination is it? It is not a denomination. The church of Christ was established long before the Protestant Reformation. (See other article --"When the church started"). What denomination did it branch out of? None, for the church existed long before the first denomination had its beginning.

Let us study, pray and work together to become one in Christ Jesus.

8 IS THE CHURCH OF CHRIST SIMILAR TO THE CHURCH OF GOD?

By O. P. Baird, Columbia, South Carolina

This question would not have been asked in New Testament times. It is an outgrowth of the confused denominational system of modern times, which is of human origin. The New Testament does not speak of one church as the "church of Christ" and a different church as the "church of God." There was one church and it was referred to by both of these terms and by a number of other terms. The idea of there being two churches, one belonging to Christ and the other belonging to God, is absurd and certainly not found in the word of God.

In the New Testament the one church is called the "body of Christ" and also the "house of God" (Eph. 1:22, 23; I Tim. 3: 15). Congregations today that are generally known as "churches of Christ" also acknowledge all other Bible terms designating or describing the church which Jesus purchased with His blood (Acts 20:28). When they speak of the "church of Christ" or the "church of God" they have reference, not to one of the many denominations, all of which were started by men, but rather to the church Jesus was talking about when He said, "Upon this rock I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18). That is the same church Paul was talking about when he spoke of "the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (I Tim. 3:15). All Christians, the children of God, wherever they are, belong to that one church. When we speak of a local congregation as a "church of Christ" or a "church of God" we mean a congregation made up of people who are just Christians, who meet together regularly for worship and work together in serving God. The people of such a congregation strive, individually and collectively, to follow all that God teaches them in the N. T. They could not correctly be designated except as the N. T. designates such congregations.

The question we are considering arises because there are now a number of denominations of the "Holiness" order that go by the name "Church of God." It takes more than the name to make a church a true church of Christ or church of God. These "Holiness" denominations are different from each other and all of them differ from the churches of Christ which are not a denomination. These churches of Christ are made up of Christians who are connected with no denomination. They do not have any headquarters on earth as denominations do, and have no intercongregational organization and no law-making body or governing body of men over all the congregations. These churches accept all scriptural designations of the church.

Sometimes someone says to me, "The Church of Christ--is that the same as the Church of God?" I answer, "Yes, certainly Christ's church is the same as God's church. It was in the world in the days of the apostles and that was a long time before any of the denominations were started by men, including the 'Holiness' denominations which wear the name 'Church of God.' The churches of Christ which have no denominational connection and are striving to follow the Bible as their only guide are not of the so-called 'Holiness' order. I think I am safe in saying they are as unlike those 'Holiness' denominations as they are the other denominations."

9 WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST AND THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH?

By Ray D. Fullerton, Jr., Goldsboro, North Carolina

There are, in reality, three major groups, not two, to be dealt with in the context of this article: the Disciples of Christ denomination, the so-called Christian Church and churches of Christ. Historically, these three groups, now widely divergent, were once united. As one invincible body with a plea irresistible to men of that day it moved in force toward one common goal: Christian unity based on the full restoration of first century, New Testament undenominational Christianity. That was the Restoration Movement before schism broke the body and thus largely destroyed for a time the glory of its plea. Then they believed that Christian unity could and would be had when men took their stand together on the Bible as the Word of God. "No creed but Christ, no book but the Bible, no name but the Divine." This and other Restoration slogans expressed their common sentiment, their common ideals for the attainment of the sought-after goal. But by 1906 the movement was shattered. One group became officially the Disciples of Christ; another, "churches of Christ," and another retained, generally, the name "Christian Church."

Disciples of Christ churches "have fellowship with the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ and the multiple organizations making up the United Missionary Society. This is a confessed denomination.... In theology it has abandoned the plea of restoration... This group over the period of the last seventy-five years have adopted the extreme positions of liberal, old-line modernism and for them the Scriptures long since ceased to be a standard of authority in religion." (J. W. Roberts, "Gone to the Christian Church," Restoration Quarterly, Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 80).

They not only use the musical instrument and do their missionary work through the U. C. M. S. (which were the two original major sources of friction which resulted in the ultimate split) and otherwise submit local autonomy to the higher ecclesiastical organization, but have adopted, as indicated above, many other human innovations. For a group following the modernistic theological line (denial of the inspiration of the Scriptures and their teaching on the virgin birth, miracles, the resurrection, heaven, hell, etc.), this is logical. In many regards they now follow Rome. They practice open membership in many areas. Many members are yet unaware of what is really taking place among their leaders and still believe they are the prime force in the Restoration Movement. Their liberal theological schools are seeing to their general re-education, however.

"...the Christian Church...fits a somewhat heterogeneous group...it generally describes those who stand half-way between the Restoration Movement of the early nineteenth century...and the (modern-day) Disciples' Denomination. ... around the turn of the century many of them realized the direction of events and broke with the united organ (U. C. M. S.) which was headed toward denominationalism. These people generally resisted (modernism) and at present continue to hold forth the Bible as the Word of God and the New Testament as a pattern of authority for a restoration of the church. ... they scorn denominationalism and are autonomous..." (ibid., p. 81). They particularly scorn their liberal brethren in the Disciples movement. On the other hand, they resent the rejection by their "anti-organ brethren" of the instrument and of the type of fellowship they frequently practice. They are sometimes banded together in a general convention with less

authority than the U. C. M. S., sometimes retain the "independent Christian Church" nomer. All use the instrument and do not intend to give it up, think it has nothing to do with fellowship and some claim it is simply an expedient. Some use the name "Church of Christ," others, "Christian Church." They are conservative and not to be confused with the Disciples churches nor with "churches of Christ" such as are described in articles of this magazine.

10 WHY DO YOU NOT REFER TO PREACHERS AS REVERENDS OR PASTORS?

By Johnny C. Sewell, Georgetown, South Carolina

WHAT SHALL WE CALL THE PREACHER? It has come to be a most common practice to address preachers with such titles as "reverend" and "pastor." Most often these expressions are used in an attempt to show respect or courtesy to preachers - but in reality these titles go far beyond that. To some, the words "reverend" and "pastor" are simply regarded as synonymns; that is, meaning the same as and used interchangeably for "preacher," but such is not proper New Testament usuage. We must follow the Bible in all that we do religiously (Deut. 4:2). This forbids us to improperly use the words "reverend, pastor, " et. al.

The word "reverend" is used only once in the entire English Bible (Psa. 111:9), and there it has reference to God. Even in this verse the word is not used as a title, but rather as a word of description. The Hebrew word, YARE, from which the English "reverend" comes, in its various forms is used 366 times in the Old Testament. Its Greek equivalent is used in the New Testament 143 times. But notice this: It is never used as a religious title for preachers! Because the Bible does not use this word as a title for preachers and because we seek to follow the Bible in all we do, we do not call preachers "reverend!" Neither should you!

To give such titles to a limited group of men tends to elevate them above their brethren, and this violates a Bible principle. The mother of James and John (Matt. 20:20-28) requested of Jesus that he bestow upon her sons the honor of sitting on his right and left in the kingdom. Jesus rebuked her by saying that in the church the person that would become great would have to be servant of all. He specifically stated that lording it over the flock was wrong! In the church of Christ there is no clergy as contrasted with the laity, no reverends as contrasted with the non-reverends. We all are to be brethren serving the Lord!

In Matt. 23 Jesus criticized the Jews for loving chief places, peculiar clothing and titles such as father, rabbi and master! Today there are still those who love the same type of thing and desire to be called in the streets "reverend." Such was not right then; such is not right now! Vainglorious titles are un-Christian!

People often misuse the term "pastor" because of a misunderstanding of the organization of the church. Many appear to think that any preacher who resides in the community and is minister to a congregation is automatically the pastor of that church. This is not a Bible definition of pastor. The word should not be used in reference to such a person on this basis.

In the N. T. each congregation was an independent unit, governed under Christ by a plurality of qualified men (I Tim. 3: 1-10) of equal authority. They were variously called elders or presbyters (presbuteros), overseers or bishops (episkopos), pastors and shepherds (poimenas). By close examination of the scriptures (Acts 20:17, 28; I Peter 5:1, 2; Eph. 4:11) it can be seen that these words are used

interchangeably to refer to the qualified rulers (Heb. 13:17) within the congregation. They have no right to change anything the Lord has commanded. Their work is to see that the will of God is done within the congregation of which they are members. Only to these men, in the official sense, can the word "pastor" be applied. (I Tim. 3:1).

We have in the church's organization a different group than the above called deacons (diakoneo). They are special servants or ministers to the church, serving under the direction of the aforementioned leaders.

Then there are the evangelists (II Tim. 4:5), ministers of the gospel (Rom. 15:16) or preachers (I Tim. 2:7). In one sense of the word, anyone who serves is a minister, but here we refer to those who minister or proclaim the word. Although the teaching of the minister's guides, tends and shepherds the flock, they are not called in the N. T. either pastors or shepherds and they should not be so addressed because of this fact. The qualifications of pastors (elders) and preachers (ministers) are different and the positions in the church which they occupy are different.

Let us do Bible things in Bible ways. Let us call Bible things by Bible names.

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Carolina MESSENGER of TRUTH

FEBRUARY 1961



New building - Rocky Mount, North Carolina

SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN

Joe Costilow
Rocky Mount, N. C.

When the well was abandoned the metal casing was cut off close to the ground but no effort was made to cover the fourteen inch diameter hole. With the passing of time grass and weeds grew up to obscure the opening. Eventually it was forgotten about. Few who lived in the vicinity even knew it was there: a death trap patiently waiting for a victim. Then, suddenly, the whole world knew about this abandoned well casing.

Little Cathy Fiscus, wandering in the field with her playmates, was a happy little four-year-old on a great adventure. Perhaps, in her imagination, she was hunting for the good fairy. Perhaps she was hunting for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, or maybe she was stalking a bad Indian after the fashion of the television cowboys. At any rate, whatever she was doing, she was enjoying it to the fullest until, mysteriously, without warning, she disappeared.

Most of us are familiar with the rest of the story. When it was discovered that the little girl had fallen into the old well efforts were immediately begun to save her. Hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment was brought to the scene. Great lights were installed, which turned night into day, so that rescue operations might continue without pause. There was no dearth of volunteers to assist and great throngs of sympathetically curious gathered to lend encouragement and to cheer those who labored so hard to save this child, whose muffled, anguished sobs could be faintly heard, echoing forth from the place where her pitiful little body was lodged some sixty feet below the surface.

It was not long before the whole world knew of the plight of Cathy Fiscus. The wire services picked up the story and flashed it to the far corners of the world. Soon messages of condolences were pouring in from almost every spot on the globe. And each succeeding edition of the world's newspapers, whatever the language, was avidly read in the hope that this edition would be the one to carry the story of the rescue of this precious child. But in the end, despite the fact that no cost had been spared, that no conceivable plan had been left untried, despite the fact that those involved had put forth a super-human effort, the spark of life in that frail body flickered and went out before Cathy could be removed from the terrifying darkness in the gripping confines of the abandoned well.

Some time after this tragic incident, one of our papers carried a story related by a Christian missionary in Africa. It told of a little black child who wandered away from a native village into the jungle. The mother, discovering her child missing, was horrified and on the verge of hysteria. This was lion country, and sign of the proximity of these ferocious beasts had been seen frequently in recent days. Quickly the word spread! And soon, almost as though by magic, there were more than six hundred men, both native and white, beating the bush in search of the child. This story had a happier ending. The child was subsequently found and returned to the loving embrace of its anguished mother.

These incidents are related to emphasize the fact that, no matter what the color, THE LIFE OF A CHILD IS CONSIDERED BY ALL MEN TO BE PRECIOUS! So much so that no amount of cost and no amount of effort is too great to put forth to save such a life. This is as it should be. You and I would do the same and, as Christians, we would feel a double sense of responsibility to do all that we could to save the life of every child. Still---we consistently pass up the opportunity to do that which is infinitely greater.

These little children, when taken from

(see page 3)

SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN (cont'd)

this world before they reach the age of accountability, are in a safe condition. Theirs will be to dwell in heaven throughout eternity. But we do not allow this to happen. We care for them, watch over them, and use every safeguard at our command to keep them alive and save them from physical death. We nurse them and doctor them; we consider no cost too great, no effort too taxing, to maintain the spark of physical life. And then, in far too many instances, we consign their souls to eternal torment by neglecting to nurture them and guard them and watch over them spiritually.

Solomon said, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Prov. 22:6). Paul said, "And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Eph. 6:4). Jesus said, "It is written in the prophets, And they shall be ALL taught of God..." (Jno. 6:45). And again, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not..." (Lk. 18:16). These passages, individually and collectively, point out and emphasize the responsibility of parents to nurture, watch over, and safeguard their children from spiritual death. But do we actually heed?

How many Christians consistently observe Bible study and devotion in the home? Because of the press of home chores, because both parents work, because of a feeling of incompetence to teach, and for sheer dilitariness, a sizable portion of our children receive NO religious training in the home. Add to this the fact that, in many homes, the television is not off long enough for anyone to either impart or receive religious knowledge and the situation becomes appalling. If the truth were known, for probably seventy-five per cent of our children, the only Christian education available is that furnished by the local congregation in its Bible classes.

However, not all take advantage of this source of learning, and some who do, fail to do so consistently. All manner of excuses are heard in an effort to justify this situation. Few, if any of them, have any merit whatsoever. But one which is heard quite frequently, and has no merit at all, is the notion that children should not be **REQUIRED** to attend religious meetings, including Bible class, for fear they will form a dislike for them.

This form of logic (?) is used nowhere except in relation to religious instruction. Shall we offer this excuse when the truant officer calls to find out why our child is not in publis school? How silly! Shall we not insist that our children perform daily chores for fear they shall grow up to dislike work? How foolish! Yet people continue to advance this excuse for not sending (or bringing) their children to Bible class.

The truth of the matter is, children grow up to dislike Bible class because they attach no significance to it. There are many things that are important to children. They do not like to sacrifice these for things they consider unimportant. Hence, children who prefer other things to Bible study do so because they attach no importance to Bible study. This attitude is instilled by the parent who lets anything and everything interfere with the Bible classes and worship services of the church. Certainly, if parents attach little significance to such, the child is hardly likely to do otherwise than to conform. We parents need to remember that Bible classes are not only for children. (II Tim. 2:15).

Today, most all congregations have good Bible class programs and are constantly endeavoring to improve them. Good material and the latest in "teaching aids" are being utilized. And, while there is seldom an oversupply of teachers, there are, in most instances, those who want to teach and will teach. These are frequently found taking advantage of opportunities to train themselves to become better teachers. They are attending Teacher's Training classes and buying and studying

(see page 4)

SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN (cont'd)
books and periodicals which set forth the latest ideas and practices relative to the science of teaching.

Christians such as these, combined with elders and preachers, are a team working together to protect both children and adults from the roaring lion that goes to and fro seeking to devour the unlearned and the unwary. They are a team trying to bring all ages out of the jungle of doubt and ignorance. They are a team trying to remove the lost from dark confines of the wells of iniquity and raise them to a position of safety in the life-giving light of the Savior.

But they are only a part of a team. They cannot hope to be successful unless the rest of the team is in position and working in unison. The rest of the team? Christian parents are the rest of the team. For, unless we parents assume our responsibility, there is little anyone else can do. Neither the elders, nor the preacher, nor the teacher can make our children be present for the Bible classes. Only we parents can see to that! And, even though we may have Bible study and devotion in the home (certainly we should), we simply cannot afford to waste the opportunity to learn in Bible class.

What, then, shall it be? Granted we should do everything, even to the giving of our very lives, to save a child from physical death. But can we do any less to save them spiritually--and still hope to spend eternity in heaven? Remember, the Savior said, "Suffer the little children to come to me, and forbid them not..."

****

--THE FIRST CAROLINA LECTURESHIP

In the May, 1960 issue of the CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH there appeared two articles under identical headings, "History of Lectures." One was written by C. W. Bradley and the other by O. P. Baird. Both, who are well acquainted with the work in the Carolinas, gave Waynesville, N. C. as the place of the first lectures and the year 1945. At the end of Bro. Baird's article he wrote, "This brief history has been written from memory without any aid from written records. The writer would be happy to have any corrections made by anyone with more accurate knowledge." The next month (June) he received a letter from Bro. J. Harrison Daniels, Cantonville, Md. (The editor of the "Messenger" also received a carbon copy of this letter along with a photostatic copy of a clipping from the Mar. 13, 1945 issue of the Charlotte Observer.)

Later Bro. Baird wrote, "In the article I stated that the first lectureship was at Waynesville, N. C., in 1945. Soon I received a letter from Brother J. Harrison Daniels, saying, 'The first of the meetings now known as The Carolina Lectures was held in Charlotte, N. C. and sponsored by the Commonwealth Ave. (now Plaza) church of Christ.' That was a two-days meeting, March 13th and 14th, 1945. That was the same year as the Waynesville meeting but earlier in the year..."

"I am thankful to Bro. Daniels for this correction and wish to pass it on to the readers of the Messenger."

Bro. Daniels wrote, "I started the work in Charlotte in '38 when I moved there with my family. From '38 on I am quite familiar with the history of the churches in N. and S. Carolina. It was early in 1945 through correspondence with Bro. J. W. Brents and Bro. A. R. Holton of Nashville, Tenn. that the church in Charlotte, N. C. worked out arrangements for holding the first meeting of preachers, elders and anyone else of the various congregations who wished to attend... the sessions were held in the auditorium of the Chamber of Commerce building. This was also where the church held their Sunday services."

The letter and photo print identifies others attending the meetings as: Carl Dillard, G. W. Nicholas, Virgil Bently, Oscar Walter, V. C. Walter, Emerson Flannery and Burrell Prince. Principal

 (see page 6)

MAN'S PREOCCUPATION

Carlton W. Elkins
Bryson City, N. C.

Far too many people dedicate themselves, their talents, their energies, and their means to the things of the world. They are so engrossed in their secular work that they don't have time or energy remaining for service and dedication to God, their Creator. They have been flattered by their success in achieving domination of material things. They have abused the authority given them, over the things of the world. They have become vain, self-sufficient, and conceited without any thought, that all they are, and all that they have, is theirs, by the grace of God. They are not willing to bow in humility and acknowledge, as did the Apostle Paul, "But by the grace of God, I am what I am; and his grace which was bestowed upon me, was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." (I Cor. 15:10). They have become, in their thinking, masters of the universe, and now look even to outer space to explore and control, and in this preoccupation they sense no need for God. Many are prone to regard themselves superior to God and his laws and commandments. So greatly occupied with their achievements of the world, they haven't any regard for the source of their strength and knowledge. They have become so devoted to the things of this world, their ego has become so inflated by the astounding control which they have gained over the world, that they overlook the powerhouse from whence cometh their help.

Man needs to "come down to earth" and realize that "God is" and that "in the beginning, God..." Man needs to curb his appetite for worldly fame and success and cultivate humility. "What is man, that thou art mindful of him," the Psalmist asks. (Psa. 8:4). Man is the creature of the all-supreme God, made in his image, made of the dust, and worth very little from a physical standpoint. In man's preoccupation he forgets that, being a creature of God, he is subject to his rule and as he dictates. Man seems unconcerned with the fact that his renovations of God's word is an insult to the wisdom and power of God. Man has turned a deaf ear to the teachings of God and to recognize that God's word will judge us in the last day. (Jno. 12:48).

Granted, that man is intelligent, he is not superior to God. His intelligence is FROM God. Granted, that man is able to understand, but he needs to channel that intelligence and his ability to perceive in the direction of the true source of success, happiness and satisfaction. If man is so wise, why is he still searching for happiness when this hidden treasure is his to embrace? If man is so intelligent, why does he seek escape from reality, and spend his efforts in an attempt to perfect means to tranquilize himself when God is a God of peace, and his son, Jesus Christ, is the Prince of Peace, and when simple obedience to God will bring that peace that passeth all understanding, and faith in him offers the best kind of tranquilizer? Man needs to direct his thoughts from himself toward heaven, toward the cross of Jesus Christ, and find complete happiness in the confidence of the reason of hope. Man needs to realize that as a Christian, as one who humbles himself and obeys Christ, he then becomes a citizen of the greatest of all kingdoms and can become the participant in the greatest of all endeavors, namely, the service of his creator.

If one thinks that he is serving God and still lacks peace of mind, still is searching for happiness, then he had better take stock of himself to be sure that he has obeyed God from the heart and to the "nth" degree as God so willed. Yes, man needs to cultivate humility and obey God and not be as Naaman, "Behold, I thought." (II

(see page 6)

PREOCCUPATION (cont'd)

Kings 5:11). After obedience to Christ and as he grows from a babe in Christ to a mature Christian, he will learn the real meaning of humility and service. As Guthrie once said, "The Christian is like the ripening corn; the riper he grows the more lowly he bends his head." As Jesus Christ came to seek and save the lost, the Christian can occupy himself in seeking and searching for means to serve his God, disregarding the sacrifices. He comes to the knowledge that God is God. As a Christian he should use his achievements to advance the cause of Christ and not to heighten his ego. He becomes a person free from conceit that "can't be told anything," or "one who knows it all" and never lays claim to being a superior creature, but always meek and humble in the presence of great mystery. He is concerned, not only with being right, but with being righteous. He will not pose as being all-wise and self-sufficient, but rather possess those pearls of great price, genuineness of character and humility. He will come to understand that his greatest need is God and that his greatest achievements are wrought through service to his creator. "Be still, and know that I am God..." (Psa. 46:10).

§ §

REPRINTS OF JAN. ISSUE

10 Most Frequent Questions About The Church of Christ-Questions Determined by a Survey of the Carolinas by Carl Lancaster.

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§ §

FIRST LECTURESHIP (cont'd)

speakers are listed as A. R. Holton, J. W. Brents and E. C. (we question the order of initials) McGaughey.

Are we right in concluding that there were two lectures in 1945, the first at Charlotte and the second at Waynesville? It isn't terribly important but we think that it would be most interesting to have further clarification on this bit of history.

Perhaps many of you would like a list repeated of the congregations which have been host to the Carolina Lectures:

Charlotte, N. C. (Commonwealth Ave., now Plaza) - - - - - - - - - - - Mar., 1945
Waynesville, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - 1945
Winston-Salem, N. C. (South Main) -1946
Columbia, S. C. (Shandon)- - - - - -1947
Charleston, S. C. (Sans Souci) - - - 1948
Spartanburg, S. C. (Central) - - - - 1949
Greensboro, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - 1950
Statesville, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - -1951
Salisbury, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - - 1952
Greenville, S. C. (Judson) - - - - - 1953
West Asheville, N. C. - - - - - - - - 1954
Columbia, S. C. (Shandon) - - - - - 1955
Fayetteville, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - 1956
Hickory, N. C. - - - - - - - - - - - - 1957
Greenville, S. C. (Buncombe Rd.) - -1958
Charlotte, N. C. (Plaza) - - - - - - 1959
Winston-Salem, N. C. (South Main) - 1960
N. Charleston, S. C. (Durant Ave.) - 1961

ABOUT THE 10 QUESTIONS ISSUE

"I was very much impressed with the "10 Most Frequent Questions" issue and I feel that it was worth the effort."

"You did a good job on the special."

"Please keep up the good work with CMT."

"Please renew my subscription to Carolina Messenger of Truth. It is a most interesting paper. I sure do enjoy it every month."

Every Catholic Should Read This!

THE CARDINALS' ADVICE

HERE is an excerpt from an address by the cardinals in the Roman Church to Pope Pius III, which is preserved in the National Library of Paris, folio No. 1068, Vol. 2, pp. 650 and 651:

"Of all the advice that we can offer your holiness we must open your eyes well and use all possible force in the matter, namely, to permit the reading of the gospel as little as possible in all the countries under your jurisdiction. Let the very little part of the gospel suffice which is usually read in mass, and let no one be permitted to read more. So long as people will be content with the small amount, your interest will prosper; but as soon as the people want to read more, your interest will fail. The Bible is the book, which more than any other, has raised against us the tumults and tempests by which we have almost perished. In fact, if one compares the teaching of the Bible with what takes place in our churches, he will soon find discord, and will realize that our teachings are often different from the Bible, and oftener still, contrary to it."

Editorial

GREATER KNOWLEDGE-GREATER CHALLENGE

The Preacher, well qualified both by inspiration and experience, wrote in Ecclesiastes 1:18, "For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow." If studies carefully, the new directory of churches of Christ in the Carolinas will make you much wiser and increase your knowledge about the situation of the church in these two states. You will have "much grief" over how little has been done in the past 89 years and how little time those of us now living have left to "preach the gospel to every creature." Your increased knowledge of the number of counties, cities and towns with no congregation will certainly cause the sincere soul increased sorrow.

For example, North Carolina's oldest congregation, Jericho Rd., started in 1872, is 89 years old. The new directory shows 89 congregations. Brethren, ONE per year for the past EIGHTY-NINE years. This pace has been accelerated somewhat as the following facts will show. Four congregations were started in 1958---Whiteville, Mocksville, Manteo and Roanoke Rapids. Five new ones were started in 1960, Andrews, Chapel Hill, Haynesville, Shelby and Wilson, but three stopped meeting, Cherry Point, Mebane and Oriental, making the net gain only TWO.

There are 45 counties in North Carolina with no church of Christ. If we are able to establish one congregation in two of these counties each year, it will take over 22 years to reach every county in N. C. How old will you be in 22 years, even if you live? Is there not some way to speed up this process?

In many ways the picture for S. C. is the same. The oldest congregation, Union, S. C., started in 1918, is 43 years old. The new directory shows 53 churches, or 1.23 for the past 43 years. Three congregations were started in 1957, Barnwell, Myrtle Beach and (Folly Beach) Charleston. Four began in 1960, Chesnee, Easley, (Northeast) Greenville, and (Beacon St.) Spartanburg, but two colored congregations stopped, Aiken and Georgetown, making the net gain TWO. If we reached only new counties, at this rate it would take 11 years to place congregations in the remaining 22 counties of S. C. But will we do it? That is the BIG question.

****

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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News

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warner's Chapel
W. J. Perkins, Evangelist

Our community advertising and visitation efforts brought top attendance during the past several weeks. Bible school average is above previous records. We are presently meeting our new increased budget. One was baptized the past week. On March 27-31 we will have a training program for the church members, conducted by visiting speakers and teachers. Members who live in surrounding areas are invited also. Time -- 7:30 nightly.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Buncombe Road Congregation
Harry L. Postlethwait, Evang.

Everyone is invited to attend a singing at the New Buncombe Road church at 2101 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, on Sunday, February 12, at 3:00 in the afternoon.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

We had our largest crowd Sunfay, January 15th. We had 66 present for the morning service. This increase was the result of efforts put forth in connection with our bus route. Attendance on Wednesday night was 45. We are already collecting funds for the Fogarty brothers' tent meeting. This congregation decided to give this in addition to our regular contribution. We need your prayers in our efforts to reach the lost. Our Thursday

NORTHEAST continued:

morning class has been rescheduled to 9:30 a.m. We use the rest of the morning for visitation. The class made five calls last Thursday. We believe this will be a fruitful part of our work.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
Joe Costilow, Evangelist

During the month of December the brethren increased the average weekly contribution to $105.67, as compared to $ 102.80 in November and $88.00 in October. Our average attendance however, left something to be desired. Compared with the previous month, we averaged four more in the Bible classes, five more in morning worship but there were five less for evening worship and one less for midweek service. We have set a goal of 45 in Bible class, to be reached by the last Sunday in this quarter. Attendance at our weekly home Bible study for the colored folk continues to grow, and we are now conducting a Bible class for children as well as adults. On January 17th, just seven weeks after beginning this work, there were eight children and twelve adults present for study. We have 24 names on roll.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Evangelist

During the past year attendance averaged 84 for Bible study, 101 for morning worship and contributions averaged $143.38 per week. Ten were baptized, seven confessed wrongs or requested prayers, and four placed membership here. We are making plans to help in every way possible in the tent meeting that is to be conducted

AUGUSTA ROAD continued:

by the Fogarty brothers in this area, May 28 through June 18. We are keenly interested and plan to invest $500 in this project.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

We begin 1961 with good averages in all services. We now have a 30-minute radio program on WKLM, 980 kc, Wilmington's only 5000 watt station. The program is entitled "Radio Bible Class," and can be heard at 8:30 each Sunday morning. We have just purchased a complete new set of audio-visual aids, including Jule Miller records to accompany filmstrips. Four cottage meetings were conducted this week. Our plans for 1961 include an effort to establish a new congregation at Carolina Beach, N. C.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

Five new pews have been added to increase the seating capacity of the Whiteville building to more than 100. The contribution one Sunday last month was $1,016.00. A meeting will be in progress on January 15-10, with Fred Eaton, of Williford, Arkansas preaching and the writer directing singing. The greatest need in this progressive city is still a located gospel preacher.

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Evangelist

Thus far in '61 four people have been baptized into Christ. The attendance has improved, with an average of 72 on Sunday morning, and 53 for the evening service. The contributions have averaged

HICKORY continued:

$112.68 for the month thus far.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

We have two new classrooms in our old building and are preparing the basement for others. We also are completing arrangements for two new rest rooms in the basement of our new building. We had 32 members present recently for the teachers' training class. Bro. Burton Coffman, of the Manhattan church in New York City, may now be heard on station WKTC in Charlotte each Sunday morning. This program is sponsored by Bro. Olin Tice in New York, who owns several radio stations, including WKTC here in Charlotte. We appreciate this generous offer, and plan to take full advantage of it, with the Dilworth congregation.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Borad Street Congregation
Harold Scott, Evangelist

A new congregation will begin in North Carolina on February 5, as a work of the Broad Street and Abilene congregations here. The community building in Taylorsville has been secured for Sunday afternoon services. Two families who are Christians live in Taylorsville now. During 1960, average attendance at Broad St. were: Bible study, 119; morning worship, 163; evening worship, 90; midweek, 75. This was a slight increase in all services over 1959. New works begun during 1960 were: a young people's class and chorus on Sunday evening; cottage Bible classes by the men of the church; ladies'

BROAD STREET continued:

Bible class. Sixteen people responded to the invitation during the year, eight for baptism, and eight for restoration. Thus far in 1961 there have been two baptisms....a man and his wife. In 1960 contributions averaged $202 per week. Budget for 1961 calls for $225 per week, with all excess income going to the Taylorsville work.

LANCASTER, S. C.
Richard Harp, Evangelist

We began working with the church here in July 1960. Since that time only two have been baptized into Christ, but we expect more in the near future. We have taken an option on a dwelling house to be used temporarily for our meeting place. We hope that we can raise enough funds to purchase this building within four months. We plan to build a new building on the lot. We are now conducting three cottage meetings in which excellent interest has been shown.

UNION, S. C.
Shirley M. Ham, Reporting

Brothers Bill Morgan and Carl Henderson were appointed elders on January 1, 1961. Brothers Gary, Jesse, Jr., and Clarence Ham were appointed deacons on January 1, 1961. The church now has five elders and three deacons. Karl Peltier and Ruth Ann Meagley were united in wedlock on January 5th.

If you know of any subscriber who is not receiving the "Messenger" please notify us giving name and address if possible.

TRYON, N. C.
Mr. E. H. Haynes, Jr. Reporting

Tryon has again gone into a new year without a preacher but many good sermons have been heard, thanks to Brothers Paul Rodgers and J. W. DeYoung from Duncan, and Brothers Bill Morgan and Walter Aiken of Union. The William Deuells left us Christmas night, to return to Arizona. The health of Sister Deuell and their little daughter made it imperative that they return. We pray for their success and happiness. We will have a regular preacher, no later than February 5. Brother Jerry Johnson, from Cedartown, Georgia, will begin work with us on that date. We sincerely covet your prayers for Bro. Johnson and the work of the church here.

FROM THE MAIL

Robert R. Carrell has accepted the work at Gastonia, N. C. He moved Feb. 1.

Nelson Smith has given notice that he will be leaving Kinston, N. C. in the spring. He is returning to Virginia to assist in further developing Camp Wamava. An orphan's home is envisioned for the future in connection with the camp or in the general area. When not busy at camp Bro. Smith will be doing "mission work" in Virginia.

James S. McDonald, Jr., formerly with the church in Union, S. C., is preaching for the church in Melbourne, Florida. His address is P. O. Box 1206, Melbourne, Florida.

* *

Remember, renew your subscription today. Watch the numbers on the label to determine expiration date.

BIG TENT MEETING



MAY 28 - JUNE 18

SPEAKERS — JACK AND BOB FOGARTY

SUCCESS OF THE FOGARTY BROTHERS TENT MEETINGS IN THE PAST

San Angelo, Texas	1958	127 responses
Brownwood, Texas	1958	204 responses
Denton, Texas	1958	107 responses
Brownsville, Texas	1959	42 responses
McAllen, Texas	1959	103 responses
Lebanon, Tennessee	1959	111 responses
Memphis, Tennessee	1959	129 responses
Greenwood, Mississippi	1959	94 responses
St. Petersburg, Florida	1960	123 responses
Jacksonville, Florida	1960	33 responses
Gadsden, Alabama	1960	204 responses
GREENVILLE, S. C.	1961	??????????

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Carolina MARCH 1961

Messenger of Truth



Place of the 1961 Lectures - Durant Ave. building
N. Charleston, South Carolina

1961 Carolina Lectures

By Billy R. Davidson, N. Charleston, S. C.

The Carolina Lectures for 1961 will be held in the meeting house of the Durant Avenue church of Christ. The date is March 13-17 and we hope that many of our fine brethren in the Carolinas will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to hear the fine lessons that will be presented by preachers in North and South Carolina.

As has been the custom for several years, the Christians in Charleston will provide housing and breakfast for the visiting preachers. It might be possible for us to take some complete families, but inquiry should be made with us before hand as to whether we have the necessary space. The housing problem in Charleston isn't helped any by the fact that most of our families are military personnel and they themselves live in houses that are small and thus really have to sacrifice needed space in order to provide this extra space. We hope that you will see the problem and help us make the best of it. Forms are being mailed to all so that we might have the necessary information as to how many you will have with you and how long you expect to stay. Let us encourage you to stay for the entire week.

Durant Avenue connects with Highways 52 and 78. If you come into Chalreston on these highways, you will turn left at the second stop light and the building will be on the right side of the street. If you come in on Highway 17, you can ask most anyone directions into the North Area and when there Durant Avenue is easily found. You might desire to purchase a map of the Charleston area. They are 50¢ at most stores and most business houses have them for sale.

In the past, brethren have tried to work every preacher that would come into the program. But now, there are more preachers in the Carolinas than can be put on a one week program without having a lot of confusion which doesn't make for a good program in return. So we have planned the program first and gotten the speakers second. Many will not appear on the program, but it isn't that you are being shunned. I hope that you will understand this problem.

As you will notice from the outline, Wednesday afternoon has been left open. Charleston is an historic city and many of the brethren wanted to "see the sights." This open afternoon will afford them this opportunity. Bro. R. L. Bullard of the Riverside congregation will conduct this tour. As many of the preachers as want to can play golf as arrangements are being made with the Charleston Country Club to let us play at a reduced rate. So come prepared for either golfing or sightseeing on Wednesday afternoon.

We will look forward to seeing you during the week of March 13 - 17.

A SCHEDULE

DURANT AVE. CHURCH OF CHRIST, N. CHARLESTON, S. C. - MARCH 13-17.

MORNING SESSIONS

TUESDAY:
9:45 - 10:00 -- Devotional Period
10:00 - 10:35 -- "Problems That Preachers Face." - R. L. Bullard, Charleston, S. C.
10:40 - 11:20 -- Theme: "THE BIBLE, THE WORD OF GOD." Subject: "Internal Evidences of The Inspiration of The Bible." - Leslie G. Thomas, Asheville, N. C.
11:25 - 12:00 -- Theme: "HELPING THE CHURCH TO GROW." Subject: "Through Personal Work." Jimmy Dorris, Barnwell, S. C.

WEDNESDAY:
9:45 - 10:00 -- Devotional Period
10:00 - 10:35 -- "Problems That Preachers Face." - R. L. Bullard, Charleston, S. C.
10:40 - 11:20 -- Theme: "THE BIBLE, THE WORD OF GOD." Subject: "External Evidences of The Inspiration of The Bible." - J. B. Whitaker, Rockingham, N. C.
11:25 - 12:00 -- Theme: "HELPING THE CHURCH TO GROW." Subject: "Through An Efficient Bible School." - Ray Fullerton, Goldsboro, N. C.

THURSDAY:
9:45 - 10:00 -- Devotional Period
10:00 - 10:35 -- "Problems That Preachers Face." - R. L. Bullard, Charleston, S. C.
10:40 - 11:20 -- Theme: "THE BIBLE, THE WORD OF GOD." Subject: "The Biblical Doctrine of The Origin of Life vs. Evolution." - W. H. Johnson, Burlington, N. C.
11:25 - 12:00 -- Theme: "HELPING THE CHURCH TO GROW." Subject: "Through Hospital Visitation." - N. E. Sewell, Wilmington, N. C.

FIRDAY:
9:45 - 10:00 -- Devotional Period
10:00 - 10:35 -- "Problems That Preachers Face." - R. L. Bullard, Charleston, S. C.
10:40 - 11:20 -- Theme: "THE BIBLE, THE WORD OF GOD." Subject: "The Biblical Doctrine of The Verbal Inspiration vs. Human Theories of Inspiration." - Gordon L. Teffeteller, Durham, N. C.
11:25 - 12:00 -- Theme: "HELPING THE CHURCH TO GROW." Subject: "Through Good Advertising." Harold Scott, Statesville, N. C.

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

TUESDAY -THURSDAY -FRIDAY:
1:30 - 2:15 -- "Ministerial Counseling of Personal Problems." - J. C. Sewell, Georgetown, S. C.
2:25 - 3:00 -- Introducing New-Comers In The Carolinas. - Various Speakers.
3:10 - Until -- Open Forum - Moderator: O. P. Baird, Columbia, S. C.

WEDNESDAY: For sight-seeing, golf or whatever form of recreation you might desire.

EVENING SESSIONS (7:30 P. M.)

MONDAY: - "The Church's Greatest Challenge." - Carl Lancaster, Greenville, S. C.
TUESDAY: - "Is Your Name Written In Heaven?" - Albert Gonce, Jr., Greensboro, N. C.
WEDNESDAY: - "The Cross And The Church." -Nelson Smith, Kinston, N. C.
THURSDAY: - "God's Storehouse of Blessings." - J. D. Parker, Winston-Salem, N. C.
FIRDAY: - "Soldiers of Christ." - C. W. Bradley, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Devil's Color

PART III

Noyles E. Sewell
Wilmington, N. C.

We are considering some of the evil forces in the world today that bear the unmistakeable stamp of Satan. In the foregoing portions of this study we have considered the Roman church under the color of black and the materialistic religion of Communism under the color of red. In this installment we note still another force in which the Devil is manifest. That force is Modernism and is best characterized by the color, pink. Modernism is a bright shade of pink, which is almost red. Modernism is a friend of Communism and an enemy of Almight God. Modernism is a system of denials which began when the Serpent hissed to Eve in the garden, "Yea, hath God said?" The deceitful workers of Satan continue to this very day to deny what God has said. The nature of this system of denials can best be understood by examining the writings of Modernists. Let us take Nels Ferre, professor of Theology at Vanderbilt University. In his book entitled "The Christian Understanding of God," he shows contempt for the Bible in such statements as this - "We have no way of knowing that Jesus was sinless. Such a proposition would depend mostly on some literal claim in the Bible." (p. 186). Although Hebrews 4:15 says that Jesus was sinless, Modernists don't know this. A clear statement in the word of God is not enough for them because they don't believe it. Ferre denies the Virgin Birth of Christ on page 191 of his book and suggests that Jesus could possibly have been the illegitimate son of a Roman soldier. Wretched indeed is the man who will so blaspheme the Holy name of Jesus, but such is Modernism. In another of Ferre's books, "The Sun and the Umbrella," we find this statement, "The use of the Bible as the final authority for Christian truth is idolatry." This negative, in my opinion, comes near to being the basic tenet of Modernism. Other specific denials naturally follow, such as the denial of the miracle of creation, the miracle of the Red Sea crossing, the miracle of Jonah and the whale and the miracles of Jesus. Modernism in fact denies that there has ever been such a thing as a miracle. They attempt to explain every Bible miracle on purely natural grounds. Their comments on the Old Testament abound with such terms as "myth," "folklore," "legend," and "fable."

The amazing thing about all this is that denominational people who claim to believe the Bible as the verbally inspired word of God will allow such infidels to stand in their pulpits and preach from Bible texts. What millions of honest religious people do not realize is that "pinks" like Nels Ferre are in control of their denominational Seminaries and publishing houses and are bent upon stealing away what little faith they have in the verbal inspiration of the Bible. The National Council of Churches is also an organization whose leaders are proved Modernist and Pro-Communists. The Revised Standard Version (or Per-Version) of the Bible and the new Interpreters Bible, a 12 volume commentary, are both sponsered and backed by the N. C. C. and represent Modernism's mightiest attack on Christianity. Modernism is a friend of Communism because its eventual fruit is atheism and infidelity. Communism is a frontal assualt on our house of faith with intent to demolish it with one explosion, while in comparison, Modernism is like a thief stealing away our house, one board at a time. This may not be the avowed goal of Modernists, but it is an inevitable conclusion. There can be no knowledge of God nor faith in Christ without the Bible, verbally inspired. Elders, preachers and all Christians should be firmly grounded in the truth regarding the inspiration of the Bible and alert to detect any Modernistic theory of inspiration. This insidious fifth-column

(see page 5)

MOSES' EXCUSES

Barney Cargile, Jr.
Anderson, S. C.

People are very good at offering excuses for doing or not doing certain things. Excuses and reasons are different in that one has no sound basis in its conduct and the other has. Human nature has not changed for people have always offered excuses. Moses is one such person who sought to offer excuses for not doing what God desired. From a study of Exodus 3:9-4:16 one will learn of Moses and his excuses and that God will not accept excuses from any person.

Moses' life work had been cut out for him by the Lord for he said, "Come and I will send thee unto Pharaoh that thou mayest bring forth my people out of Egypt." Moses, however, did not want to return to Egypt and began to offer excuses.

The first excuse: "Who am I that I should go?" Moses was looking to himself, his own resources and strength. He was walking by sight and not faith. Naturally, Moses could not accomplish the task alone and God did not intend for him to do so. The Lord answered, "Certainly I will be with thee." Too often our attitude is that of Moses, "I can't do this, I can't do that," and this is true for alone you are nothing, but with God helping there is nothing impossible. "I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13).

The second excuse: "Behold when I come and say, The God of your fathers hath sent me, and they shall say, what is His name? What shall I say?" God replied to Moses, "I Am that I Am." "Thou shalt say, I Am hath sent me unto you." In Hebrew the tense is indefinite, meaning equally, "I was," "I am being," and "I will be." This signifies that He is self-existent, self-sufficient, and He is eternal. The Great "I Am," Jehovah, hath sent us. Christians are his ambassadors (II Cor. 5:20) and have the message of reconcilation to proclaim. (Mark 16:15, 16).

The third excuse: "They will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice, for they will say, the Lord hath not appeared unto thee." This certainly sounds like a reasonable objection, but had Moses believed the Lord as he should have he would have known God would supply the proof. The Lord has never sent forth his messengers without sufficient evidence they are from God. Three signs were given Moses in order to make the Israelites believe. His rod became a serpent, his hand leprous when placed in his side, and water poured on the ground would become blood. Christians today are not without evidence for the Scriptures prove we are from God. (II Tim. 3:16; Acts 18:28).

The fourth excuse: "O my Lord, I am not eloquent... I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue." Jehovah answered Moses, "Who hath made man's mouth? Have not I the Lord? I will be with thy mouth and teach thee what thou shalt say." There are many today who offer excuses for not doing personal work in seeking to reach the lost. The attitude is, "I cannot talk, I do not have the ability." But if one studies the Bible and knows what the Lord wants him to say, then He will take care of the rest. I have yet to meet a person who cannot talk about what he knows and is interested in. A Christian woman may tell you she cannot tell others about Christ, but ask for the recipe to a dish she has prepared and without hesitation she can tell you. When visiting in the homes of Christians while in a gospel meeting I us-

(see page 6)

WHAT COLOR? (cont'd)

of Satan has once before attempted to influence the Lord's church to turn aside down the road of infidelity. They were quickly exposed and exterminated with the Sword of the Spirit, but Satan is a hard loser and will try again. Let us watch and pray.

EXCUSES (cont'd)

ually ask the man's occupation and no one has ever had any difficulty in describing their work. Yet in all probability if asked to tell others about Christ, his excuse would be, "I can't talk." People can talk about politics or anything they know and are interested in. Every Christian can talk about Jesus if he knows the message and is interested in the church and the lost.

The fifth excuse: "O Lord, send I pray Thee, by the hand of him whom Thou wilt send." This last excuse is equivalent to saying, "Lord send someone else; I do not want to go." Moses was filled with unbelief and stubbornness. Jehovah had been patient, but he became angry at this. God said he would send Aaron with Moses as spokesman and so Moses went. If Christians become stubborn and unwilling to do as God directs he will become angry with them and remove the talents they have. (Matt. 25:26).

Never offer an excuse to God for not doing his will, but rather be filled with zeal and say, "Here am I Lord send me." Like the Apostle Paul be an instrument the Lord can use to his glory. "By the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not found vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." (I Cor. 15:10).

§ §

THE JANUARY ISSUE

We continue to receive favorable comment on the January issue.

"The men of the congregation here decided in a business meeting last night to order 300 copies of the January, 1961 "Messenger" to be used as tracts by the church of Christ at Madrid, Spain. We think this is the best collection of articles dealing with questions about the church that we have ever seen."

"The last Messenger paper (Jan.) you sent was one of the best I have ever seen."

You may still order this issue if you like. Just ask for the "10 Questions" issue and mail your order to: Carolina Messenger of Truth, Box 5423, Sta. B, Greenville, S. C. Price - single copy, 15¢; above 14 copies, 10¢ each.

§ §

GASTONIA, N. C.

A Spring meeting with Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. of Goldsboro, N. C. is scheduled for April.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

Vol. III MARCH 1961 No. 3

Editorial and publication staff:
Burl Curtis, Editor
Ray Taylor, Publisher
Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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Address all editorial matter to Burl Curtis, P. O. Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C. Address all news to Ed Davis, 706 Adams St., Seneca, S. C.

LOOK FOR THIS!!

In April we plan to bring out a copy of the "Messenger" devoted to the subject of the "Old and New Law." Many people do not understand even this division of the Bible. This one, like the Jan. issue, will be so designed that you may use it for a tract. It will contain less material and will sell for 10¢ for copies from 1-49 and 5¢ each for orders above 49. Plan to buy it if you need it. Remember that all proceeds from reprints serve as an endowment for the Carolina Messenger of Truth.

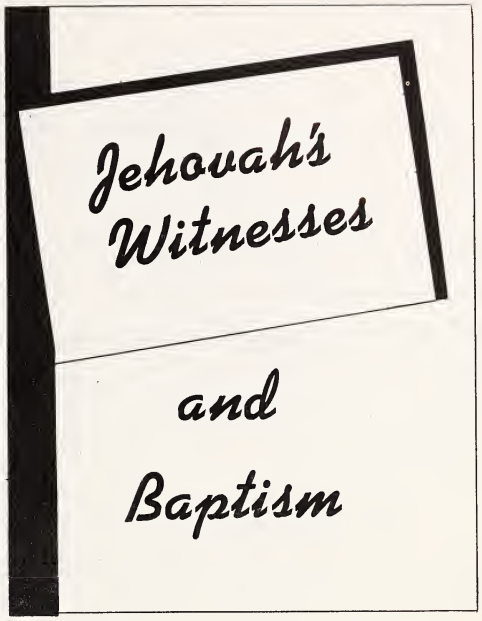
SOME MAY NOT KNOW

We would like for you to know that the Messenger is available in the following ways:

Single subscription - $2.00 per year.
Clubs (5 subs. or more) - $1.50 per year.
Mailing List (we mail directly to the families of the congregation; bill sent each month to the church) - 12¢ each.
Bundle rate (15 or more copies) - 10¢ each.

Many of you could profit from reading the paper. Why not encourage the people in your area to subscribe? Several individuals are serving well (many times at their inconvenience) to make this paper possible. Why not encourage them by buying the product? It would take very little extra effort to produce twice the number we now print.

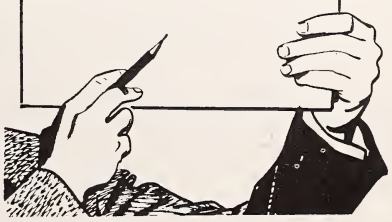
NEW DIRECTORY - If you want one of these, please order right away. The demand was so slight that only 200 were printed. We have been delayed in filling some of the earlier orders, so if you have not received your copy, please look for its delivery within the next few days.



This new tract is an examination of Jehovah's Witnesses' teaching on the subject of baptism. Whereever their doctrine differs from the scriptures, this is kindly pointed out. Written by a preacher of the gospel, Thomas Eaves, of Jasper, Tennessee. He has requested that all proceeds from the tract go into an endowment for the Messenger. When you need this tract, order from us. Samples can be mailed upon request.

Advertizing?

FOR CHURCH ACTIVITIES USE THE PAGES OF THE MESSENGER!!



IT IS HEALTHY
To Forgive

A NEW YORK PHYSICIAN says about seventy per cent of his patients reveal resentment in their case histories. "Ill will and grudges help to make people sick. Forgiveness," he says, "will do more toward getting them well than any pills." So it is healthy to forgive, to say nothing of being the right way to live. Here are helpful rules for the Christian.

1. Determine that you are going to forgive. *It is not easy* to revise emotional attitudes, but in due time you will feel the resentment leave you.

2. Remember the harm resentment can do, not to the other person, but to you.

3. Remember that you will never be spiritually blessed until you forgive.

4. Thinking about forgiving is not enough. You must come to a specific moment when you say, "With God's help, I now forgive."

5. Repeat the disciples' prayer, inserting your offender's name, "Forgive me my trespasses as I forgive_____."

6. Practice praying for the other person, asking specific blessings for him.

7. Speak to others in a kindly manner about the person against whom you harbor antagonism.

8. Write a brief letter of good will. Do not be offended if it is not answered. You have cleansed your own heart; that is what really matters.

9. Study the factors which created this unhappy situation to correct the "mistake pattern" in yourself.

10. Ask God now to effect a permanent spiritual change in your nature to forestall future rifts. Sincerely want this, and pray for it.

—Adapted from "Guideposts."

News

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Five years ago, on the first day of the week, the first day of the month, the first day of the year, the congregation in Valdese had its beginning, with 13 members meeting in a hotel building. The Bob Plunketts, our first preacher and his family, also lived there. Now, on the first day of the week the first day of the month, and the first day of 1961, we have 29 on the roll and are meeting in an attractive church building, with ample room for assemblies, five rooms for Bible classes in the basement, and a nice threebedroom house for the preacher and his family, on the same lot. The congregation here assumes the payments on the church property, but other congregations contribute to the salary of the preacher. Bro. James A. Davis was our next evangelist, George F. Raines was our third, and Bill. G. Smith is our present one. We are now conducting a new type radio program, in the form of a panel discussion. The panel of preachers consists of Clay Henderson of Hickory, Vernon Crawley of Dysertville, M. F. Norwood of Marion, and Bill G. Smith of Valdese. This program is over WMNC, Morganton, on every Saturday from 9:30 to 10:00 a. m. Bible questions are discussed, as they are sent in by the people of this area. Through this method we hope to make new contacts and reach people heretofore unknown to us and to teach them New Testament Christianity. Beginning on the first of the year, the church began using the pledge system of giving, with a weekly budget of $120.00. For the month of January, the average weekly contribution was $123.47.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

February was marked with increased attendance and contributions. One was added by baptism. I was in a short meeting in Kinston, N. C. recently, with good attendance.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

The meeting with Fred Eaton, of Williford, Arkansas during last January resulted in excellent attendance. The congregation has high hopes of getting Bro. Eaton back to locate with them in the near future. The problem is support.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

We have recently suffered a loss of several members who have moved away. On Monday February 13, we lost through death one of our beloved elders, Bro. W. O. Hixon. This man of God and faithful servant of the Lord was pillar of strength and encouragement to the work here. His loss will be felt for some time to come. We wish to take this space to express our sincere sympathy to his family and friends, our sadness over his loss, and our faith that God will receive this son to His bosom.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Red Oak Church
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporting

During 1960, four were baptized and one was restored. We lost two sincere members, one elderly lady moved away and Bro. Wayne Snelson died on December 6th. The next singing of the churches in this area will be at Red Oak, on April 16th, at 3:00 p. m. Tune in to hear our radio program at 11:45, daily on the Marshall, N. C. station, 1460 on your dial.

READ THE SPECIAL REPORT ON THE FOGARTY BROTHERS TENT MEETING!

TAYLORSVILLE, N. C.
Harold Scott, Reporting



On February 5th, the Taylorsville congregation met for the first time. This is the first congregation in Alexander county. They are meeting in a community building, near the center of town. The picture shows the building and some of those present for the first service, a singing. About 175 were present. Two Christian families live here. Broad Street and Abilene congregations in near by Statesville are supporting the work. Weekly newspaper articles are being published in the local paper, a free Bible corrrespondence course is being offered, the Statesville radio program can be heard in the county, and direct mailing of articles concerning the church are being sent to each resident of Taylorsville. Personal work teams are beginning a religious census in the spring. Any preacher interested in locating here may write to me at Box 1484, Statesville, N. C.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street Congregation
Harold Scott, Evangelist

January saw the highest Wednesday evening attendance in some time at Broad Street, with an average of 85. Sunday averages were 124, 160 and 96. A man and wife were baptized this month and one was restored.

AIKEN, S. C.
Alexander Campbell, Evangelist

In a recent business meeting here the present work program of this congregation was compared with that of a year ago. Being done now, but not a year ago, are:

1. A regular radio program.
2. A food pantry for the needy.
3. $50 per month for the needy.
4. $50 per month for mission work among the colored people.
5. A fall meeting added to the schedule of services.
6. Services in the prison every Sunday afternoon, in cooperation with the Jackson and New Ellenton congregations.

AIKEN, S. C.
A New Colored Congregation Begins

The white church in Aiken is contributing $10 per week toward the support of a colored preacher in Aiken. Bro. V. E. Williamson, a former student of Bro. Marshall Keeble, comes highly recommended by the Williston church. He is spending every Friday in Aiken, doing personal work and strengthdning the new church. During the month of January, fourteen families were contacted, and much interest has been stimulated.

BARNWELL, S. C.
Jimmy Dorris, Evangelist

Here are some of the highlights of the work in Barnwell in 1960:

1. Fifty-four responses were seen, the highest number for any year in the history of this congregation.
2. A record contribution average of $129.92 per Sunday, with a record of $553.59 on one Sunday.
3. An average attendance of approximately 63 for mid-week.
4. An average attendance of approximately 80 for Sunday.
5. A total of 312 daily radio programs, for a cost of $1300.
6. A full schedule of both public and private Bible classes.
7. Building fund was increased to $18,175.00 representing over $9000 in new funds for the year.

BARNWELL continued:

8. Completed a gift of $500, to re-establish the church in Jerusalem.
9. Started contributing $5.00 per week to the colored brethren in Williston, S. C.
10. Distributed many tracts, including weekly distribution into some 70 different non-Christian families.
11. Continued teaching through a Bible correspondence course.

ALLENDALE, S. C.
Jimmy Dorris, Reporting

The church here has been without the services of a preacher for 3 months. Bro. Luther Atkinson is the regular preacher, but he has been in serious illness for some time. However, he is much improved, and plans to be back in Allendale the last of February. All of the medical services, hospital bills, and other bills have put quite a strain on Bro. Atkinson, and I know he would appreciate any help you could send. (He does not know I am inserting this notice in the "Messenger.") The church in Allendale has continued his pay, but he was working for only about half what most preachers get. During Bro. Atkinson's absence, Bro. Hagood Godly did a splendid job in preaching and teaching, I am told.

INTERESTED IN RETURNING ...

James L. Frazier
133 Grandview Avenue
Brookhaven
Chester, Pennsylvania

Bro. Frazier has formerly worked with the churches at Boone, and Jacksonville, N. C.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Reporting

Because of bad weather attendance here has been at a low point. We are looking forward to our spring meeting with Bro. Rudy Senn.

HIGH POINT, N. C., Olan Hicks, Reporting

The most fruitful area of our work here during 1960 was "cottage meetings." In the early part of this year, the men have taken over about half of that work and at the moment we have meetings going regularly on every available night plus other systematic visitation.

We are very proud of our women. Their persistent devotion to duty was a terrific influence all last year and very fruitful. They meet together once a month and decide who will shoulder which of the various feminine responsibilities for the coming month and therefore each "job" has at least one responsible attendant. At the last meeting 19 were present, within about 3 of all the regular attenders. They combine this meeting with a Bible study designed particularly for women. It has proved very successful.

We are just on the verge of adding more pews to increase our capacity until we can acquire a larger meeting house. Curtis Manor of Cleveland, Tennessee will conduct our Spring meeting, April 24-30.

FAIRVIEW, Spartanburg, S. C.

Success was the cheerful proclamation Monday night, Feb. 20, after the monthly business meeting of the Fairview church of Christ. Yes, finally a method has been made available for financing the buildin g by Palmetto Enterprises of Spartanburg.

About two years ago the church (formerly Beaumont) was forced to vacate their old building because of the construction of a highway which in now Fairview Ave. Mr. Walter Montgomery of Beaumont Mills very cooperatively gave the church $2,500 to vacate the building. It was originally owned by the mill and was deeded to the church as long as it was used for worship.

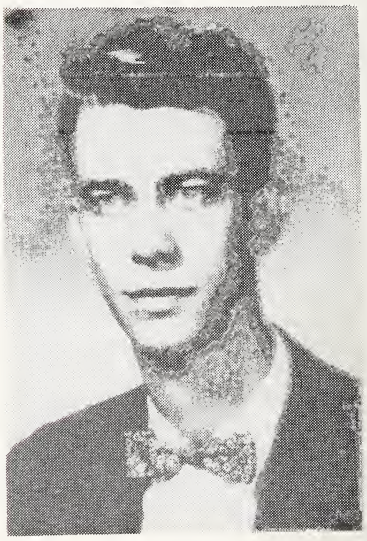
The amount of cash received from the old building bought a lot in the Fairview Heights section and built a basement.

After exhausting most all methods of raising money, Palmetto Enterprises, Inc. has come to the rescue. A bond type loan plan is being adopted. The Enterprise has been appointed to handle all plans and negotiations in selling and paying of bonds. Building completion will cost $15,000.

BIG TENT MEETING



JACK FOGARTY



BOB FOGARTY

SPEAKERS IN THE BIG TENT MEETING

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAY 28 - JUNE 18, 1961

DON'T MISS -

The all day Bible reading on Saturday May 27th. - Under the Big Tent - Th New Testament is read from 9:00 A. M. to 9:00 P. M. -A chance in a life time.

Carolina Messenger of Truth



BUILDING AT DUNCAN, S. C.

Congregation Established 1934 Erected 1955

THEME - The Law of Moses and the Law of Christ

APRIL 1961

LAW of MOSES

V. R. Richie
Spartanburg, S. C.

The general term, the Law of Moses, includes the whole system of laws which governed the Jews from Sinai to Pentecost. Moses was not the author of the law--God was, but it is referred to as the Law of Moses because it was given through Moses. In II Chronicles 34:14 we are told that "Hilkiah the priest found a book of the law of the Lord given by Moses." Then John 1:17 says, "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." (ASV) Also, Paul wrote, "What then is the law? It was added because of transgression, till the seed should come to whom the promise hath been made; and it was ordained through angels by the hand of a mediator." (Gal. 3:19).

The law is also called the book of the covenant. (Ex. 24:7) A covenant is a contract or an agreement between two or more parties. From Exodus 19:5-8 we learn that God through Moses outlined to the people His demands and promised that if they would meet these demands they would be "a peculiar treasure unto me above all people." And "all the people answered together, and said, 'All that the Lord hath spoken we will do.'" This is plainly a contract, a covenant between God and the people. The people at that time did not know the specific things which God would require of them. They knew only that He expected them to obey His voice and keep His covenant. The details of the covenant were made known to them later.

This covenant, consisting of the laws given through Moses, was the outgrowth of the first two promises which God made to Abraham, recorded in Genesis 12:1-3. This promise is stated as follows: "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing." In verse 1 of this chapter, God told Abraham to leave his country and kindred and go into a land which He would show him. Thus, God has promised that the seed of Abraham shall be numerous, and that they shall have a land in which to dwell. However, in order for them to develop and prosper as a nation, it was necessary for them to have laws or a government. In the law of Moses, their need for a government was supplied. This is stated by Paul in Gal. 3:19 where he says that the law was added that is to the promise, because of transgressions. Also, it was necessary for their religious life to be cultivated and regulated. Without the holy influences of a pure religion, a nation will degenerate until it is destroyed. In all true religion, worship is provided to elevate the thoughts, cultivate the heart and keep alive a religious sentiment. For these reasons provisions were made in the law of Moses for worship and religious activities. All of these laws and regulations, both secular and religious, were given at Mt. Sinai, through Moses, and they constitute what is called the Mosaic Covenant or the Law of Moses.

When God finished giving these laws and regulations to Moses, the people were assembled, the laws were revealed to them and the covenant was ratified and sealed. In Exodus 24:7,8 we have the following: "And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, 'All that the Lord hath said we will do, and be obedient.' And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, 'Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words.'" Thus these laws, having been sealed and ratified were made binding on the people.

The term, <u>the law</u>, as used in the Bible sometimes refers to the Ten Commandments. Jesus used it in this sense when he said to the Jews, "Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me?" John 7:19. They were about to kill, but the law which Moses gave forbade killing. That, of course, refers to the commandment, "Thou shall not kill." Ex. 20:13. The Lord did not intend to teach that all of the law was contained in the Ten Commandments, however. There was much more to the Law of Moses than the ten statements on stone, but they contained

. the essence of all the rest. In other statements in the Bible, the term, the law, includes more than simply the Ten Commandments. One such passage is Galatians 3:24 which says, "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ..." Surely no one would say that the term law in this passage includes no more than the Ten Commandments. In fact, this expression is used by inspired writers to refer to statements in all five books of the law. In I Cor. 14:34 Paul said for women to be in subjection "as also saith the law." This is admitted to refer to Genesis 3:16. Again in Rom. 7:7 Paul said, "I had not known lust, except the law had said, 'Thou shalt not covet.'" This is from Exodus 20:17. Then a man asked Jesus, "Which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus replied that he should love God with all his heart, soul and mind, and his neighbor as himself. Matt. 22:25-39. These commands are recorded in Deut. 6:5 and Lev. 19:18. Last, Jesus asked the Jews, "Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?" Matt. 12:5. This is from Num. 28:9,10. Thus we learn that the term, the law, refers to all of the writings of Moses. Jesus so used the term when he said, "All things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me." Luke 24:44. Here the Old Testament is divided into three parts, and the law of Moses is one part, including the five books which were written by Moses.

Again the expression, the law, is a general term used to include moral, civil and ceremonial enactments. In Luke 2:27 it is said that the parents of Jesus brought him to the temple that they might do for him after the custom of the law. In verse 24 we are told that they offered a pair of turtledoves. This was a cermonial act, but it was required by the law. Then, Jesus said that the great commandment of the law is to love God with all of the heart. This is neither civil nor ceremonial--it is a moral requirement, but it is of the law. Again, Paul said, "Sittest thou to judge me according to the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law?" Acts 23:3. Here Paul referred to a civil enactment of the law. From the foregoing passages, then, it is clear that all law--civil, ceremonial and moral--binding on the Jews, would compose the law of Moses and not the Ten Commandments alone. The Ten Commandments served somewhat as a constitution--they were the basic law of the new nation of Israel which was formed of the tribes of Abraham and Jacob. All of the rules, laws, or regulations, whether moral, civil or cermonial, were in harmony with these basic laws. However, all of the law, that is the whole system or body of laws given through Moses, and which was binding on the Jews from Sinai to Pentecost, constitutes what is known as the Mosaic Covenant or the Law of Moses.

WEAKNESSES of the LAW

Bill Perkins
Clemmons, N. C.

The law of Moses did not fail to do the job that God intended it to do. It was never intended to be final. "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, and to seeds. as of many; but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ." "Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions till the seed should come to whom the promise was made." (Gal. 3:16,19). During the existence of the old Testament the way was being prepared for the second. This suggests the inferiority or weakness of the law of Moses. The word "weakness" is used in this article in reference to "inferiority" to the law of Christ and not in any way to infer a failure on God's part in making a covenant with Israel which could not accomplish His purpose. Since the first covenant had to be abrogated before the second could be established ("He taketh away the first that he may establish the second") and since it was only intended to be "our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ," it necessarily follows that it could not accomplish what the second could. Paul puts it this way, "For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second."

(Heb. 8:8). Here again Paul was obviously refering to the weakness or inability of the covenant as it is compared to what the second could accomplish. The law of Moses was given for that age of man when he needed the peculiar guidance of a "schoolmaster" to bring him to Christ. (Gal. 3:24).

Now what the law of Moses could not do can be accomplished by the law of Christ. (Space permits us mentioning only some important weaknesses in a general way, weaknesses which are overcome by the law of Christ.) The Jews became children of God by a fleshly birth whereas under the law of Christ there is a spiritual birth, as one is "born of water and the Spirit." (John 3:3, 5; II Cor. 5:17; Gal. 3:26, 27). The inherent weakness in the law of Moses was mainly because it could not claim a lawgiver or priest or king as high and holy and worthy as Christ, God's son. (Notice this contrast in reading chapters 1, 3 and 7 of Hebrews). The grace of God as "unmerited favor" supplies a needed benefit to one who will use it. As you know giving a drowning man a great material inheritance is not grace, for it would avail him nothing. So the grace or blessing given to Israel did not include that which was sufficient to bring forgiveness of sins, for under Moses' law they were unable to appropriate this spiritual blessing. They did not receive salvation or remission of sins, thus John 1:17 says, "The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." This reveals the greatest fault or weakness of the law of Moses--the fact that it could not save or offer remission of sins. Rom. 8:1-3, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit... for what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." So freedom from sins came by Grace and Truth brought by Christ. Heb. 9:22 reads, "Without shedding of blood is no remission of sins," but we learn that this shedding of blood had to be Christ's, "For it is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins." Heb. 10:4. "The precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot," (I Pet. 1:19) was the only thing that could provide redemption from sin. The blood of an animal only offered atonement for the errors of the people, and this once each year. (Heb. 9:7). It could not provide forgiveness or the promise of "an eternal inheritance." "And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."

The law of Moses served its purpose as a national law and covenant between God and Israel only. (Ex. 19:1-5; 24:1-8). It guided them as a nation "until the seed SHOULD come which is Christ." (Gal. 3:19, 6). In contrast, the saving power of the new testament, the gospel, (Rom. 1:16) is for every creature in all nations. (Mk. 16:15, 16). When we obey the gospel of Christ we are made new creatures, children of God (II Cor. 5:17; Gal. 3:26, 27). "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. Having, therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh."

Not understanding the purpose and weaknesses of the old testament is the reason many today often return to it for authority for what they are doing. They have failed to learn that the old testament has been taken "out of the way" and replaced by a better. (Heb. 10:9). Col. 2:14 says, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing IT to the corss." Beloved, never let it be said that we should not believe the old testament; we should. We should believe in its purpose, and we need its admonition, but yet the Lord does not want us to go back to it for instructions today in how we should worship and obey him. (John 4:20-24; Heb. 5:9). God wants us to hear Christ

not Moses or anyone else. In Mark 9:7 he said, "This is my beloved son, Hear ye him." "Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith." (Heb. 12:2). Beloved, "God hath provided some better thing for us," (Heb. 11:40) why should we and how could we desire the weaknesses of the old law of Moses? Since we have a better prophet, a better high priest and king, a better sacrifice, and a better hope, established upon better promises, let us be willing to live under this better covenant, the new testament of Christ, and not go back to the weaknesses of the old law. Being encouraged by those who did live faithfully under Moses' law, let's seek to live as faithfully as we can to the new testament. In the words of the inspired, "Beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany SALVATION!" (Heb. 6:9).

THE LAW TAKEN AWAY

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God promised Abraham, "And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice." (Gen. 22:18) In Paul's letter to the Galatians he said, "And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed." (Gal. 3:8) The gospel was not preached to Abraham in its completed form as it was on Pentecost in the second chapter of Acts; however, the "glad tidings" or "good news" of the coming of Christ was preached.

This promise of the coming Messiah should have been enough for Israel to walk by faith and live acceptable in God's sight, but having transgressed and rejected Him so many times God legislated by the law of Moses how his people were to live. "Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made..." (Gal. 3:19) From Paul we learn that God never intended for the law to last forever. It was to last "till the seed should come..." The "seed" in this passage is the same as that which was promised to Abraham, even Christ.

The giving of the law did not change or disannul God's promise to Abraham. "And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise." The promise made to Abraham was still in effect, and while living under the law Israel was to never forget that promise. The law had a special value to the Jews in that it was "a schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster." (Gal. 3:24, 25)

On the Mount of Transfiguration Moses appeared with Elijah talking with Jesus. For approximately 1500 years the Jews had followed the teachings of Moses and the prophets, but now the voice out of the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." The time had come when the people of God were to hear Christ, and no longer were they to hear Moses or the prophets.

Jesus himself said, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." (Matt. 5:17) The law has never been destroyed. We still have the Old Testament and we can profit by studying it. Reading of such men as Abraham who "looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb. 11:10) can enrich our lives and give us greater hope in facing the future. "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." (Rom. 15:4) The Old Testament often warns us of the consequences of not obeying God's laws, yet we are no longer bound to keep the Old Testament law. It has been fulfilled in Christ. "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." (Jno. 1:17)

There are those who believe that only a part of the law has been taken away such as circumcision and the tabernacle wor-

ship, but the basic commands and precepts of the law are still binding. This cannot be true. God gave the law of Moses to Israel only. "Jehovah our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day." (Deut. 5:2, 3) That covenant was not made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but it was made with Israel, the people to whom Moses was speaking at that time. Immediately following this, Moses named the ten commandments, of which the sabbath was one. But this covenant is not binding upon Christians. Paul quotes from Jer. 31:31 and says, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:" And then he concluded the chapter by saying, "Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." (Heb. 8:8, 13) The ten commandments were taken away and replaced by the new covenant. "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." (Col. 2:14)

Christians have a new day, the first day of the week, in which to worship the Lord. (Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:1-2) This is the Lord's day. It should not be confused with the sabbath day which belonged to the law of Moses. The sabbath day fell on the seventh day of the week, not on the first day of the week.

Nine of the ten commandments are a part of the New Testament; however, they have a much deeper meaning in this new covenant. Not only the outward act of sin but also the inward desire to commit sin is condemned by God. (Matt. 5:21, 22; I Jno. 3:15)

Why would anyone want to be justified by keeping the law of Moses when we have the gospel? Paul told the Galatians, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel." (Gal. 1:6) And then he tells them in the first four verses of chapter five how disastrous it is to seek justification through the keeping of any part of the law. He says, "Christ is become of no effect unto you..." In the Roman letter we read that we are dead to the law that we might be married to Christ. And then he says, "But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter." (Rom. 7:4-6)

THE LAW of CHRIST

T. A. Isaacs
Charlotte, N. C.

Sometime ago in a North Carolina city I was discussing the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ with a denominational preacher. In pointing out to him that we are no longer amenable to the Law of Moses but to the gospel of Christ, I used the expression several times that we are subject to the Law of Christ. He replied that we are not under law but under grace and that the expression, Law of Christ, is an unscriptural term. This statement reveals not only the gross ignorance of this seminary graduate, but of the majority of religious people in general. To the churches of Galatia Paul wrote, "Bear ye one another's burden, and so fulfill the LAW OF CHRIST." (Gal. 6:2) The Law of Christ is a system of grace. To the Roman Christians Paul wrote, "For ye are not under THE law, but under grace." (Rom. 6:14) But because we are under grace and not under the law of Moses does not prove we are without law at all, for Paul declared in this same letter, "But sin is not imputed (put down to a person's account) to us when there is no law" but he says," All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23) The Apostle John in giving one definition of sin declared, "Sin is the transgression of the law." (I John 3:4) If we are not under law, the Law of Christ, then there is no sin, we have no sin, but John wrote, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us... If we say that we have not sinned, we make him (God) a liar, and his word is not in us." (I John 1:8, 10) We must conclude then that the individual who says we are not under law,

the Law of Christ, is a liar and he makes God a liar, also.

After showing that the priesthood had been changed and that Christ is now our High Priest, the writer of Hebrews said, "For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law." (Heb. 7:12) Notice he does not say that the law has been destroyed but that the law has been changed. As the priesthood has been changed from the Aaronic to Christ so the law has been changed from the Law of Moses to the Law of Christ.

The Son of God died a death as cruel as the wicked minds of men could invent. But in putting the Son of God to death, these wicked men did not realize that the Law of Christ was being sealed and the purpose of God being carried out. On this occasion Jesus Christ shed his precious blood that the New Covenant might be sprinkled therewith and put in force that men might realize the forgiveness of sins and be brought into covenant relationship with God. By Calvary's harried tragedy then, the Law of Christ was set in motion.

Three days after He was crucified, He was raised from the dead and for about 37 days he was with His disciples here on earth. Then one day He went with them to the Mount of Olivet and from that place they beheld His ascension into heaven. He entered the Holy of Holies, not made with hands, to make an offering of his own blood for the necessary atonement of the New Covenant, the Law of Christ. He ascended to the right hand of God to mediate this new law. (Heb. 4:14; 8:6; 9:15; 9:25) Ten days later he sent the Spirit in fulfillment of His promise to guide the apostles in the spreading of this new law, the Law of Christ. (John 14:16-18; 14:26; 16:4-16; Acts 2:1-4) Being filled with the Spirit on that first Pentecost after the resurreetion of Christ, Peter stood up with the eleven and began to speak as the Spirit gave him utterance. Fro the first time the Law of Christ sounded forth in all its magnificient splendor. This was the beginning of the propagation of the New Covenant. Peter preached the death, resurrection and ascension of Christ for the first time. The testator was dead and the testament could now be probated. We know this for the writer of Hebrews said, "For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead; otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth." (Heb. 9:16, 17) As Peter reached the climax of this great sermon that began the Law of Christ, he said to the Jews who had crucified Christ, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ." When the people heard this they were cut to their hearts, they believed they had crucified the Son of God. So they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" In reply to this question Peter told them to "repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:36-38) At last, according to the Law of Christ, men are told what they need to do to be saved by the Lord Jesus Christ. Three thousand precious souls responded to the requirements of the Law of Christ on that day and were added to the church by the Lord himself. (Acts 2:41-47)

It is no wonder then that the writers of the New Testament refer to the Law of Christ in beautifully descriptive language. Paul calls it "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus." (Rom. 8:2) It reveals him who is "the way, the truth and life." (John 14:6) Again he says that it is "the Law of Faith." (Rom. 3:27) It is the law of faith because it is a system of faith. The very foundation of this law is faith in its author. (Heb. 11:6) In fact the whole law is sometimes called "the faith." (Jude 3) But further James refers to the Law of Christ as the Law of Liberty. (James 2:12) It is the Law of Liberty because it is the only law that will liberate men's souls from the bondage of sin. (John 8:32; Rom. 6:16-18) James further calls it the perfect law of liberty. (James 1:25) It is perfect in at least two senses. First, it is a complete law. Often men amend or otherwise change human laws, but not so with the Law of Christ. It is perfect. Man needs nothing but the Law of Christ to direct him from earth to heaven. (Gal. 1: 8,9) Secondly, the Law of Christ is perfect in that it will do exactly what Christ has said that it will do; it will save our souls. (Psalms 19:7)

There are a few other observations we wish to make concerning the law of Christ.

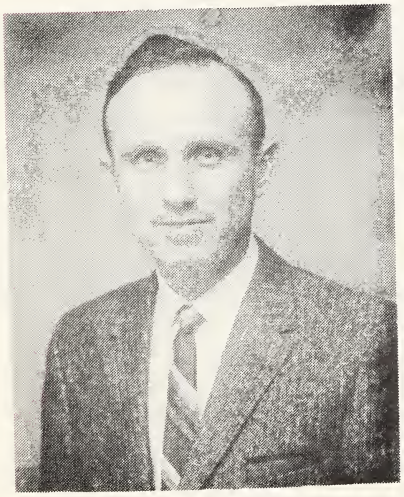
It is a law written on the heart or mind of man not on tables of stone. (Heb. 8:7-12) It offers the richest rewards, the greatest inheritance: remission of sins, the gift of the Holy Spirit and eternal life. (Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:2; I John 2:25; I John 5: 11) Is it any wonder the writer of Hebrews refers to it as "the better covenant." The Law of Christ is eternal and is the last will and testament of God given to bring men back to Himself. (I Peter 1:25) Perhaps one of the most pertinent points to be made concerning the Law of Christ is the fact that when this life is over and we stand face to face with Christ in judgment, it will be the Law of Christ by which we will be judged. (John 12:48) Seeing then that we shall be judged by the Law of Christ, it behooves each one of us to render primary obedience to this law and then observe in life and doctrine every requirement of the LAW OF CHRIST.

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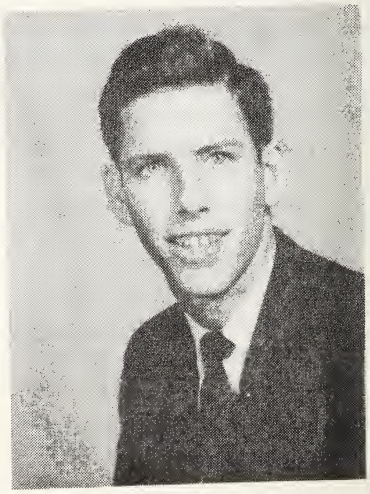
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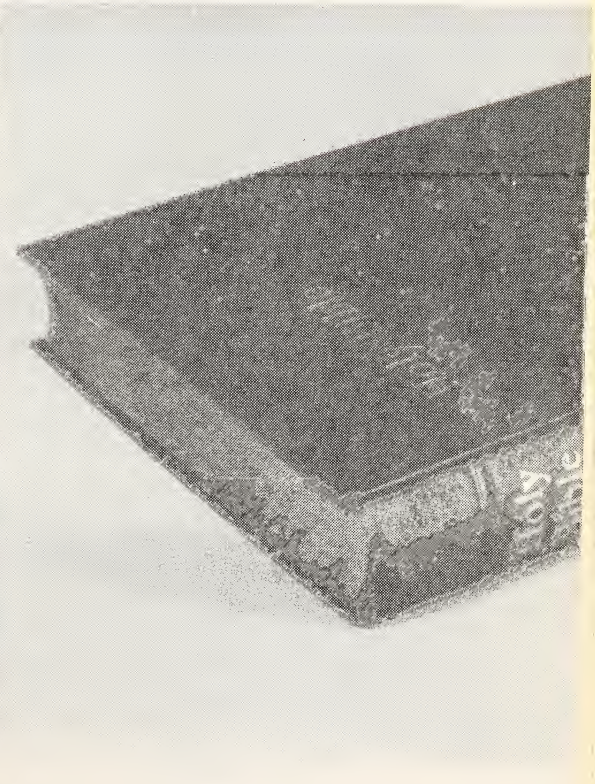
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MAY 1961

EDITORIAL

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Possibilities OF THE GOOD BIBLE SCHOOL

Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.
Goldsboro, N. C.

Churches in the Carolinas which desire to grow within the next ten years must first envision then embrace that growth. The possibilities that Christ spoke of in John 4:35 must become a reality. What the churches need to accomplish this harvest is not only a view of the harvest but a potential-packed program which will enable them to enjoy a bountiful in-gathering. Such a potential is offered every church through the Bible school. The Bible teaching program is only a part of the overall work of the church which is aimed in the same general direction--soul harvesting--but it is a vital part.

In Ephesians 4:11-13 Paul includes teachers of God's word among those whose work is "the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ..." A church which does not develop and maintain a Bible teaching program which accomplishes this is simply failing to do what the head of the church wants it to do.

The good Bible school offers the church a practical, Biblical way to effectively reach out into homes of both church and community, to win souls for Christ, to nurture, develop and keep them. And all in a most natural, logical way.

1. The Bible school offers such possibility for growth to the church because it is EVANGELISTIC IN NATURE. Gospel meetings are not as successful as they once were; there is too much competition. In fact, a soul-winning church must constantly conduct a whole spectrum of evangelistic activities--cottage meetings, advertising, public relations, decent and orderly worship, keep its building and grounds neat and clean, have a visitation program, minister to the needy--if it is to win souls. The Bible school program is evangelistic and fits into nearly every phase of the work in some way or another. Christianity is a religion of the heart, but it reaches the heart through the head; people must "all be taught of God;" (John 6:44, 45) and the church is "the pillar and ground of the truth," (I Tim. 3:15) making "known the manifold wisdom of God." (Eph. 3:10) Not every member can effectively teach, but every member, even every member of every class, can invite others to come and be taught, to come and study the Bible. Every teacher and every student should be trained to be an evangel. Statistics prove that from 75 to nearly 100% of our converts have come to the Lord through the Bible classes of one or more churches. Christ is concerned for every lost soul. (Luke 19:10; Luke 15; Luke 10: 2) We are to compel the people to come. (Luke 14:23) The question is, Are we now proceeding with a degree of urgency and concern that truly reflects our Lord's concern? Probably not; but such a spirit can be developed through the Bible classes. We need to learn a lesson from evangelical denominations who are and who have for years been far outstripping us through their Sunday School programs.

2. The good Bible school offers great possibility to the church because it is EDUCATIONALLY SOUND. Consider the division of classes according to the needs and capabilities of the pupils. (Heb. 5:11-14; I Pet. 2:1,2) Teachers must be trained; curriculum, always Christ-centered, is Bible-founded, catering to the inward man that his spirituality may be reflected in the outer man; teachers can be recuited from within the program and trained "on the job." Facilities, equipment, materials--these MUST be considered. The church is in competition with secularism and with denominationalism and this competition offers nice, comfortable, pleasant surroundings, the best equipment. The church should not be outdone. The goal is not to train scientists and philosophers, but to train men until "we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of

(see page 4)

GOOD BIBLE SCHOOL (cont'd)

the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ..." What a task!

3. The good Bible school offers rich potential to the church in its harvesting program because it EDIFIES the body, TRAINS ITS MEMBERS, BUILDS UP THE CHURCH. It makes effective workers for the Lord. What better circumstance could the church desire to train in Christian work and worship than through the ideal educational situation offered in an effective Bible school! In a properly divided class a dedicated Bible teacher can meet with and discuss the problems his pupils face--boys, girls, young people, young adults, parents, new converts. Where can the church better teach its members how to pray, sing, serve the communion, usher, worship--than in the Bible class? Must we wait until the entire group comes together to teach them how to pray, how to worship? Why not, through the Bible class arrangement, teach the members to worship before they come together?

4. Closely connected is the advantage of KEEPING THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN WON. A teacher and a class which is desirous of not losing a single soul will check every absentee with a personal call, a phone call, a note. Fellowship among the class members is often more effective than trying to rely solely on the fellowship which can be secured in a large congregation where a pupil may not know everyone. The personal concern and the personal contact offered in a Bible class serves to promote a lasting fellowship which keeps the souls which have been converted.

5. There is unlimited possibility in the Bible school program which is ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORTED AND PROMOTED. Where there is no enthusiasm the program will perish! This writer believes in goals, number goals. Objection is often raised that numbers mean nothing, that a good Bible school is better than a big one, that quality is more acceptable than quantity. Then why did Jesus say to go teach every creature, to make disciples of all nations? Why did the Holy Spirit record that 3,000 were converted on Pentecost, that 5,000 men were soon after converted, that the number of the disciples multiplied, that it multiplied exceedingly? (Acts 2:41; 4:4; 6:1,7; 5:14) Because every person counted among these vast numbers was a living soul now saved from sin. Because the Lord probably foresaw that one day some twentieth century Christian would disdain the "big church," preferring "quality to quantity" but not attaining either. The church of Christ today knows quite a bit about "divisions in the church," "visible results" in the form of "additions" (usually achieved through a "good gospel meeting I just conducted at..."). But it knows little of the multiplication known to the church in the first century.

Preachers should preach two, three or four sermons each year on the Bible school program; goals must be set regularly; students must be made aware of the potential in the Bible school; enthusiasm begets enthusiasm and when the program is pushed actively from the pulpit, by the leaders, through the bulletin, results will follow provided other facets of the work are not ignored.

We can be certain that the Lord does not want the church of Christ to be small. So why should we be smothered by the small church complex? Set the goals high; set the program up; put it into action; work it; and souls will be won and trained and kept for Christ.

(Note: This is the first in a series of four articles by the same author. They are printed by request of several who attended the Carolina Lectures in Charleston, S. C. The other articles will appear in the June, July and August issues. Encourage everyone to read them, especially Bible class teachers and church leaders. You might want to discuss them in your monthly teacher's meetings.)

NEW CONGREGATION

Harold Scott
Statesville, N. C.

Taking another step toward the day when there are churches of Christ in every city, town and crossroads community in N. C., the Abilene and Broad St. congregations set about in 1961 to establish the church in Taylorsville, N. C. Taylorsville was chosen for two main reasons. First, because in the past Bro. C. W. Bradley and Bro. Jimmy Woodroof, while they were located at Broad St. and Hickory, held two gospel meetings in Taylorsville and as a result two families are now Christians who were driving to Statesville and Hickory to worship. Second, because this town of 3,000 is in a county of 15,000 which has no congregation of the church of Christ. Also, it is a town rather centrally located between Statesville, Hickory and Wilksboro where there are congregations of the church whose members can give of their time and talent toward establishing another congregation.

Consequently, on Sunday, Feb. 5, the first service was held in the Community building of Taylorsville. Services are now conducted there each Sunday afternoon at 3:00 P. M. by members of the Broad St. and Abilene congregations. This was the culmination of several weeks work by many Christians. One afternoon men of the two congregations went to Taylorsville to meet some of the local business men and arrange for a meeting place for the church. Another afternoon men gathered there to distribute advertising concerning the new congregation in the city. Because of the small size of the town, advertising costs can be kept low--a grapevine works rather effectively! Also, five newspaper articles were run in the local paper, one each week, stressing the undenominational nature of the church. Beginning April 23, a weeks' gospel meeting was conducted in Taylorsville using a different preacher from the surrounding congregations each evening. Prior to this teams of men went to Taylorsville to do personal work. Advertising was inserted in the local paper, plus some news articles which were printed free of charge.

Although the Broad St. and Abilene congregations cannot fully support the work in Taylorsville, they have pledged $200 per month toward that work and their help in raising more. It is our goal to have a full-time evangelist located in Taylorsville sometime in June, to purchase a lot and erect a modest building as soon as possible--within two years at the most. Any preacher interested in locating in Taylorsville may write either the Broad St. or Abilene congregations in Statesville, N. C.

(We are highly honored to be able to encourage this good work and all others through the pages of the "Messenger." Are there other congregations which could begin, and continue to support, a new work in the bordering county? Let us exhort one another to practice what we really have believed for a long time, that the Lord will help us carry the message to everyone. - Editor)

"AS YOU RECEIVED CHRIST"

C. W. Bradley, Winston-Salem, N. C.

To the Colossians, Paul wrote, "As therefore ye received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him..." (Col. 2:6).

Do you remember the day when you first received Christ? Do you remember confessing your faith in him and being baptized for the remission of your sins? What are some of the things that you best remember about that event?

As I let my memory travel back over the years to that day when I was baptized in a little creek in Hickman County, Tennessee, there are several things that stand out vividly. I remember how happy I was to

(see page 6)

AS YE RECEIVED (cont'd)

know that I was becoming a son of God. I remember how determined I was to be always loyal to him who died for me and in whom I had confessed my faith. I also remember how it encouraged me when my friends and brethren gripped my hands and expressed their interest in me. I shall never forget this. (Brethren, don't forget to offer words of encouragement to those who have just been baptized into Christ.)

Since that day I have seen many buried in baptism. Whether I am actually doing the baptizing or simply witnessing the scene, I never cease to be thrilled. I am not ashamed of the tears of joy that often roll down my face. It is a beautiful sight to those who realize the real significance of the act. It brings to mind the burial and resurrection of our Savior. It is also an expression of obedience and an indication of a death to sin and a new life on the part of the one who is being baptized. Yes, it means that another precious soul has "received Christ Jesus."

Don't ever forget that day when you first received Christ. Peter tells us that the man who fails to add the "Christian graces" has "forgotten the cleansing of his old sins." (II Pet. 1:9). It will help us to remember that day when our sins were washed away in the blood of Christ. Christians, let us sing often, "O happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away."

§ §

W. Richard Judd will succeed Noyles E. Sewell as minister of the Wilmington, N. C. church of Christ sometime in June.

The Highland View congregation in Oak Ridge, Tennessee is sending Bro. and Sis. Mannon of Christiansburg, Va. to establish the church in Greenville, N. C. They plan to come in August. There are two families now living in Greenville that will make the nucleus for this new work.

VALUE OF VISION

Leslie G. Thomas
Asheville, N. C.

Vision is an essential element in all true success. Everything of value today is built upon this principle. "Where there is no vision, the people perish," is always a true saying. This passage of scripture (Prov. 29:18), in its original setting, had reference to prophetic visions, or the revelation of truth by God's messengers; but in its practical application, it was necessary for the people to get a vision of their duty, by hearing the word of God, before they could please him: otherwise, they would "cast off restraint."

It has correctly been said that every great accomplishment in life owes its origin, its inception, and its first impulse to the exercise of that strange gift which God has bestowed upon man, that is, his imagination or the power to from images. The Lord himself employed this principle when he urged his disciples to undertake the conversion of the world. See John 4: 35.

But vision alone is not enough. The images which we form must be translated into action. Compare the vision of an architect, and Paul's vision of the man in Macedonia who needed help. The vision, however, had to come first; for without it there would have been no inspiration for service.

A vision without a task is a dream;
A task without a vision is drudgery;
A vision and a task is the hope of the world.
--Anonymous

But in studying this lesson, let us consider the fact that we must always be

READY FOR THE VISION

Those who are familiar with the Bible are aware of the fact that on many occasions when God wanted to reveal something to man, the latter was not ready for the vision. See Matt. 13:10-15. But when people are ready for that which God wants

(see page 7)

VALUE OF VISION (cont'd)

them to know, they not only want to see that which he has in store for them, but they are ready and anxious to do that which he wants them to do. In the spirit of Saul of Tarsus, "Wherefore...I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." (Acts 26:19.)

Man's willingness to obey the Lord's will will always bring him a blessing. "If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know of the teaching." (John 7:17a.) "For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that which he hath." (Matt. 13:12.) The context shows that Jesus was speaking of opportunities and man's use of them.

OUR VISIONS MUST BE REGULATED BY THE TRUTH

It is relatively easy for many of us to from images of that which we think ought to be done; but it frequently happens that the activities which we visualize are not in harmony with God's revealed will to us. "Brethren, my heart's desire and my supplication to God is for them, that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God." (Rom. 10:1-3.)

One of the very first things which we should learn is the truth that no service which we can perfrom is pleasing to God, unless it is according to his will. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. 7:21-23.)

The church, then, and each individual Christian, should strive to learn that which God wants his people to know and do; and this can best be accomplished by keeping a goal before them. "Brethren, I count not myself yet to have laid hold: but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:13, 14.)

SOME REASONS FOR A GOAL

A goal keeps us from being contented with our status quo, and it stimulates us to aim at higher and better levels of achievement. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not; for he is faithful that promised: and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works; not forsaking our own assembling together; as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day drawing nigh." (Heb. 10:23-25.)

A Sunday morning Bible school attendance goal not only increases the interest of those who are already having a part in that phase of the church's work, but it also stirs up many who are not now attending, or who attend only occasionally. It is in this way that many are led to realize something of the importance of the educational program of the body of Christ. And what is true with reference to the Sunday morning Bible school may also be true regarding the mid-week and other meetings of the church which are arranged for the study of the Bible.

An effort to reach a goal emphasizes our zeal and devotion to the purpose and plan of God for his people; and zeal and devotion, like many other of the finer things of life, are contagious. An adequate goal will always increase our vision; and this will enable us to see many of the great potentials which are before us. And while we are on the subject, the fact that a good gospel paper, such as the Carolina Messenger of Truth, as an effective means of extending our vision of better things for this life, should not be overlooked.

SHOW THE MESSENGER TO OTHERS!!!

News

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

We at the Plaza have been most fortunate and blessed in the transfer to Charlotte from Texas of Bro. Ken Durham, an elder in the Odessa church. Bro. Durham brings to us a record of faithfulness and the ability to teach and preach. He is associated with the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company in an advisory capacity. Bro. T. A. Isaacs is finishing an 8-day meeting at the Wendover church in Greensboro. We are sure that the cause of Christ was strengthened by the meeting. Bro. Gonce preached for us one Sunday in Bro. Isaac's absence. Plans are starting for our Vacation Bible School, to be held in the first week in June. It will be a night school this year, and we hope this schedule will attract more parents and children. We have finished construction of the two new rest rooms in our new building. The Dial-A-Devotional telephone service continues to be an attention-getter in Charlotte. We feel it is worth the effort and expense of maintaining it.

ALLENDALE, S. C.
Luther Atkinson, Evangelist

After five months in the hospital and under the doctor's care in Atlanta, I am certainly glad to be back on the firing line again. We baptized eight here in 1960. Our gospel meeting will be April 24 - May 1, with Jimmy Dorris, of Barnwell, preaching. Services are at 8:00 p.m.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Evangelist

We are all looking forward to the big tent meeting to be held here in Greenville at the fairgrounds May 28-June 18. This series of gospel services will begin with an all-day Bible reading on May 27. Over 100 brethren are expected to do the reading. The preaching will be done by the Fogarty Brothers. Our attendance and contribution have remained about average so far this year. We have had two baptisms, two confessions of wrong, and two to place membership. We are still trying to go forward with plans for construction of a new church building before too long.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray D. Fullerton, Evangelist

We conducted a "WEEK OF PREACHING" April 2-7 with Lanny Henninger of Abilene, Texas, preaching. Five were restored and four who had been out of communion some time also placed membership with us. A singing on Sunday, April 2, was attended by over 200. 156 attended the final service of the meeting. More adult non-members from the community attended these services, than ever before. Our radio program, Dial-A-Devotion, and work in the community brought some of these people. On Sunday, April 9, I began a meeting with the church in Fayetteville, and go next to South Main, Winston-Salem for a meeting.

THANKS FOR THE FINE NEWS REPORTS THIS MONTH. KEEP 'EM COMING IN!
--- News Editor ---

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Evangelist

The brethren at Hickory decided in our last business meeting to build a more appropriate meeting place as soon as possible. We need desperately to move. We are holding our own in attendance and contribution. Sickness has kept away some of our members. We are looking forward to a real revival beginning May 7th with Harold Scott preaching. So far, the meeting last October with Doyle Karraker was the best that Hickory has had, but we believe this one in May can be better. On May 7th, we plan to have a dinner-on-the-ground, and a singing in the afternoon at three. All are invited.

UNION, S. C.
SHIRLEY HAM, Reporting

The Union church will hold its meeting during May. The date is May 7 through May 13. We hope the meeting will be successful.

WILLISTON, S. C.
Paul Wilkinson, Evangelist

I will be moving from Williston after school is out. We would like to stay in the Carolinas, if the Lord wills. If you are in need of a preacher and we can be of service to you, write us in care of the church, P.O. Box No. 255. We have enjoyed the work here in many ways. There are many fine brethren to work with. If you are interested in this work, please write to the church secretary, A. T. Brown, 109 Sumnifield Drive, Williston, We have enjoyed a good month, with an increase in attendance and in contributions. The averages per weeks were: morning classes, 59;

WILLISTON continued:

monring worship, 74; evening worship, 52; Wednesday evening, 50; contribution, $136.38. In addition, two young ladies were baptized into Christ. We thank the Lord for it all.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Fairview Congregation
Ray Smith, Reporting

Since our last report, our contribution and attenfance have remained average. Record attendance for the year was 49. There has been one restoration. We are to have a meeting May 14-20 with Bro. Bill G. Smith, of Valdese, N. C., speaking. A singing will be on May 14.

TRYON, N. C.
Mrs. Ernest Haynes, Reporting

We will have a meeting May 8-17, with Bro. C. H. Woodroof preaching. We really look forward to one of the greatest meetings we have ever had. We sincerely covet your prayers and support. Bro. Jerry Johnson, our regular preacher, continues to present fine lessons. We hope to see a great deal of progress soon.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
Vance Street Congregation
Leslie G. Thomas, Evangelist

It is good to be associated with you brethren with the work in the Carolinas. We are happy to be able to say that the work at Vance Street is moving along in a fine way. There were 100 present recently, and two were baptized.

BE SURE TO ATTEND THE BIG TENT MEETING IN GREENVILLE!

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Evangelist

Four adults have been baptized here recently. They are all natives of Wilmington and will have much influence for good among their neighbors. T. Pierce Brown, of Manchester, Tennessee, will hold a meeting during June. I will hold a meeting in Statesville during the last of May. June 4 will be my last Sunday with this congregation. My address after that time will be: Box 1083, Kinston. During my 35 months here, there have been 28 baptisms.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Erporting

I preached at Whiteville April 9, for my last Sunday there. Bro. Petree and the brethren in Fayetteville have assumed the responsibility of supplying a preacher for Whiteville. There are no prospects at present for a located preacher at Whiteville. There were 47 present on April 9.

ABERDEEN, N. C.
Darrell E. Beard, Evangelist

On Sunday, April 2, our record contribution of $96.04 was set, replacing the old record of some $78.00 set during last November. During the past several weeks we have come very close to breaking our attendance record of 32. Attendance and contribution both have been very good lately. Recently two cottage meeting classes have begun in the homes of members, with others planned for later. We plan to make more extensive use of newspapers by inserting lessons, paid ads, and news articles from time to time. In connection with this and our

ABERDEEN continued:

radio program we plan to offer a free Bible correspondence course. Our radio program will begin May 6 over WEEB, Southern Pines, 990 on the dial. This 5000 watt station will carry the program each Saturday morning from 11:45 till 12:00. You are invited to attend our spring meeting with William Perkins of Warner's Chapel, May 7-13, at 7:30 each evening.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
Albert Gonce, Evangelist

We had three baptisms and four restorations at Wendover during March.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton W. Elkins, Evangelist

Two have been baptized since our last report. We are hoping to begin a weekly newspaper article soon, and pray for the day when we can preach the gospel by radio.

RALEIGH, N. C.
W. Kenneth Warmbrod, Reporting

On March 12th, T. A. Isaacs conducted the service in which two of our brethren, E.T. Watson and H. H. Reynolds, were ordained as elders. These are the first to hold this office here. Operations have been set in motion to choose deacons and additional elders. Our new building has recently been completed and is now in use. All we need now are a few new members to fill it up. Bro. Bill Shelton of Hartsivlle, Tennessee has agreed to begin work with us as preacher early in May. We are continuing with the mission work at Louisburg and Chapel Hill.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Evangelist

We were very happy to set three new records April 2. We had 63 for Bible Study, 75 for the worship, and the collection was $120.45. We had one baptism the same day. Bro. James Watkins is to be with us in a meeting, May 8-18.

ALBEMARLE, N. C.
Frank R. Milton Evangelist

(An Open Letter)

Dear Brethren:

Perhaps you are acquainted with the church in Albemarle. We started three years ago with nine members, and $25.00 per month outside support. Since then the Lord has blwssed us with sufficient support for the preacher, building lots costing $4000.00, $300.00 per month coming in for the building fund, and a growing membership. The Building and Loan Assn. here will lend us $17,000.00 toward the construction of a building. The community where the lots have been purchased are interested, and many ask about our progress often. However, we need your help--not so much in money, as in labor. If you can come, and bring a car load for one or two days, it will mean much to the completion of our building. The Paden Construction Company , of Cleburne, Texas, will take charge of the building program, and arrangements have been made for donated labor. We need carpenters, plumbers, electricians, brick masons, and just plain laborers. If you come for a day, we will furnish your lunch. Let us know how many, and when you would like to come. You can come on any day of the week, except Sunday and any evening from 6:00 to 11:00. If you can come, and will make plans we will keep you informed of work so that you can know what time to come. The new building is being constructed on the Norwood Highway (52 South) about one mile from downtown Albemarle. You can call me (phone YU 2-5301) when you get into town, but please let us know in advance when we can expect you. Without your help we will not be able to complete this building. Your help in this project will mean much to the work of the Lord in this community. A word about tools --- please bring all the hand tools you can. We will furnish all other tools necessary. May we hear from you soon?

ALBEMARLE continued:

NEWS

Bro. W. G. Gantt is now working with the West Columbia congregation. He moved April 1 and his address is 1449 B. Avenue, West Columbia, S. C.

Kinston, N. C.
Nelson M. Smith

After June first my new address will be Nelson M. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 231, Charlottesville, Va. Bro. Noyles E. Sewell, now of Wilmington, N. C., will succeed me here. It is with regret that I leave the Carolinas after three of the most pleasant and profitable years of my life. I have never known a finer fellowship with preachers of the gospel than I've known here. I shall continue to be interested in the progress of the Lord's work in these two fine states and hope to return occasionally for lectureships and, perhaps, meetings. I covet the prayers of all Christians and would be most pleased to hear from all who care to write.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION !

ATTEND THE . . .

Big Gospel Tent Meeting

EACH EVENING
8:00 P.M.

NO COLLECTIONS

No spectacular miracle claims, no free-will offerings, love offerings or collections of any kind—Just plain, sound gospel preaching presenting Christ as the answer to man's greatest need — congregational singing of the good old gospel hymns known and loved by all.

FATHER AND SON EVANGELISTIC TEAM
JACK AND BOB FOGARTY

As an ex-army chaplain with the rank of Captain, with three battle stars, one for the bloody Battle of the Bulge, Jack Fogarty especially appreciates the need for preaching the gospel of the Prince of Peace. His son, Bob, will hold a special appeal for the younger people. Supported by the Churches of Christ, with the fire-proof tent seating over 5,000, this team with Jack's brother, Dan, has conducted 14 meetings in which over 800,000 persons have heard the gospel.

FAIRGROUNDS

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAY 28 -JUNE 18

PRE-MEETING FEATURE

MAY 27

CONTINUOUS READING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT
9:00 A.M.—9:00 P.M.

THE GOSPEL BY MARK, AND ACTS THROUGH REVELATION WILL BE READ WITHOUT INTERRUPTION OR COMMENT. COME AND GO "AS YOU ARE." REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

Carolina

Messenger of Truth



This big tent is now on the fairgrounds in Greenville, S. C.
Meeting continues through June 18

JUNE 1961

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Board of Directors of Carolina Bible Camp has created the Marvin Chavis Scholarship Fund to assist needy and worthy young Carolinians in attending Camp. The Fund is named in memory of Marvin Chavis, young camper who was accidentally drowned at the 1960 Camp. Sufficient funds have been assured to assist four campers; Christians in the Carolinas will be given an opportunity to contribute to this worthwhile work.

Recommendations for recipients of these scholarships will be received and considered by the Committee appointed by the Board. Committee members are Ray D. Fullerton, Jr., Chairman, Harold Scott, Ed Sewell, W. G. Gantt, Olan Hicks, Ernest Thigpen and Ralph Richardson. Proposed recipients may be children of either member or non-member homes but they must be recommended by Christians, and they must be worthy of the scholarship. The Committee will make final determination of who the recipient shall be, such decisions to be based on the information furnished in the application blanks.

The Committee will want to know such information as: church connection of child and parents; financial situation of family (purpose of the Fund is to provide aid to prospective Campers who though worthy are unable without help to attend); probable ultimate good the Camp might do in each specific case; does the child and/or his family attend Bible classes and/or worship of the church and if so, for how long; statement from the Bible teacher knowing the child best; family status of child; any additional information which might help the Committee reach a decision.

Christians throughout the Carolinas are urged to consider those who might be worthy recipients of such help as this and to write the Chairman, Ray D. Fullerton, Jr., Box 116, Goldsboro, N. C., for application blanks on which information must be submitted.

IT HAPPENED IN COURT

James A. Davis, Hendersonville, N. C.

Last Monday I dropped by the court house for a few minutes and listened in on a divorce trial that was in progress. A young woman was on the witness stand clad in a tight sweater, and tight fitting slacks. When she had finished her testimony and started down the judge halted her and in a loud clear voice said, "Young lady, for your personal benefit, and the benefit of this audience, we want you to know that

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Ray Taylor, Publisher
Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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MAKING B. S. BETTER

SHOULD PREACHERS LOOK DIFFERENT

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

Several years ago another preacher and I were traveling together in an automobile when we decided to give a hitchhiker a ride. When we told him that we were preachers, he simply refused to believe us. Here is the way he expressed it, "You fellars are not preachers. You can't fool me. You don't even have your shirt collars turned backwards." As far as he was concerned dressing in such a way as to look different from others was an absolute necessity in order for a man to be a preacher of the gospel.

In 1945 while working with the church in Syracuse, N. Y., an incident happened which I shall never forget. For an entire afternoon I talked with a woman who thought she was an atheist. However, she said that she wanted to believe in God, but simply could not bring herself to have a real faith in Him.

That night I was pleasantly surprised when that lady and her daughter came to our mid-week meeting. In a calm manner I talked about the importance of accepting God as our creator and of our having an active faith in Him. The visitors listened well.

After the service was dismissed, the lady remarked to me, "You seem different from the preachers I've known." Not understanding just what she meant by that statement, I asked her to explain. She continued, "You seem like other people. I'm not afraid to talk to you." I considered this a compliment and told her that I wanted to be like other people as long as they conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner.

To live a clean and upright life and to proclaim the simple gospel of Christ is my greatest desire, but to so dress and

(see page 7)

Ray Fullerton
Goldsboro, N. C.

There is not a church in the Carolinas that cannot have a better Bible school than it now has. Nor should any church in the Carolinas be satisfied with anything less than an all-out effort to improve its Bible teaching program. Support for this statement is suggested in the first article in this series in which an endeavor was made to point out the great possibilities in a good Bible school.

Too many brethren working with small, perhaps mission churches think a good Bible school, one which is well organized, efficient and effective, is solely for the "big church." Not so. Improvement can be a reality regardless of the size or circumstances of the church.

Of course, someone first must catch the vision and, with that vision, set others on fire. Logically, elders are the beginning place. If there are no elders, or if the elders do not, will not or cannot catch the vision of the great potential in such a program, then the preacher must serve as the "sparkplug" in such a program. The church will rise no higher than its leadership; have no greater vision than they.

It is no argument, though often used and heard, that, "I know nothing of Bible school work, of teacher training, curriculum, teaching aids, and so on." The work must be done and ignorance is no iron curtain. Once we knew nothing of how to perform weddings or officiate at funerals; but we learned, and soon.

We need not rely on the "outside experts." They were once neophytes; we must train ourselves to train others. Let the man in the Carolina pulpit become proficient in Bible school work! Study the literature in the field, purchase several good books, subscribe to magazines dealing with the subject, get the needed tools and go to work mining the fields of

(see page 4)

BIBLE SCHOOL (cont'd)
gold: the good Bible school functioning effectively in every Carolina church.

1. We will improve the Bible school when we PROMOTE IT. The word "promote" is used in its best sense. The minister will do well to preach a sermon on the subject each quarter. There is nothing better than an enthusiastic approach from the pulpit. This writer preaches on such topics as, "The Good Bible School," Needs of the Bible School," "Building Up the Church Through the Good Bible School," and "Aims of All Christian Instruction."

Bulletin articles should give attention to various phases of the Bible school. Letters to teachers and to the children are effective. Personal attention to children and young people helps. Preacher and teachers should constantly use the Bible classes as a talking point in inviting families and their children to attned.

Frequent attendance goals--at Goldsboro we use about four yearly--keep enthusiasm at a high pitch even better than the more traditional once-a-year "all out" effort. Promote the program and do it enthusiastically.

2. A better Bible school will be built when it has the SUPPORT of the CHURCH. Too many churches treat the Bible school "without natural affection," as though it were a step-child. They expect it to produce miraculous results (to convert up to 95% of our membership, to train them and then to preserve the results of our evangelism), but these miracles are to be accomplished on a diet of pennies. PUT THE BIBLE SCHOOL IN THE CHURCH BUDGET! If carpets and air conditioning and water fountains are important, how much more important is the Bible school program! Souls are at stake.

3. When CLASSES ARE PROPERLY DIVIDED, the Bible school will become better. There are unfortunately many limitations to the full practice of this--size of congregation, number of children, facilities, lack of teachers. When our work at Goldsboro began four years ago, Bible school attendance ran around twenty-five and we at first had only two classes: Children and Adults. Within weeks we began another. Finally, by dividing, we attained five classes: Pre-School, Primary, Juniors, Young People and Adults. Attendance increased to around sixty-five. At one point, January 18, 1959, we set a goal of seventy; we had seventy-five in these five classes, for too many. Church membership then was forty-four. On that day we had forty-five children and one person was baptized. Through continued division (forced by increased attendance), we now have ten Sunday classes and attendance averages 145 with a membership of eighty-eight.

4. TEACHER TRAINING will produce better Bible schools. Constant recruiting and training is essential. Place prospective teachers with qualified teachers--practice "on-the-job-training." We have recruited additional teachers by using husband-and-wife combinations in classes from the Primary level on down to Cradle Roll (five such teams work together now at Goldsboro). Regular teachers meetings (at least once monthly) should be planned for discussion of a keynote idea, of teachers' problems and needs, of the overall situation in the church. Give teachers something to look forward to--make their meetings instructive, interesting and challenging. Pay honor to the teachers. Use filmstrips when practical and advisable; recommend to them books, articles, ideas. Let teachers demonstrate to others their techniques, or tell of ideas they are using profitably. Do not let teachers or classes select their own substitutes or replacements; insist that the elders, evangelist or educational committee have final say on who is to teach. Train the teachers.

5. Attention will be given to FACILITIES AND FURNITURE where improvement is a goal. Better have rooms too large than too small. Select with care the paint col-

(see page 6)

Love —PURE AND IMPURE

Olan Hicks
High Point, N. C.

It is the nature of the flesh to want to be indulged. Selfishness is characteristic of an unregenerated heart. A misconception of love, formed after the pattern of the flesh, amounts to an attitude of indulgence of fleshly impulese or approval of them. In this vein we have seen parents indulge a pattern of gross misbehavior in their children because "they just love them too much to apply disciplinary correction." Such is a form of love all right, but of a baser, unenlightened sort. It reflects no long range consideration or practical thinking at all. "Love" of this kind, which is pretty much an exercise of sensual whim, so often productive of evil rather than good. It is closely akin to the kind of love forbidden in I John 2:15, where a contrast is drawn between love of God and love for the things of the world.

A world bent upon self indulgence offers the kind of love described above as license for it. Love is supposed to cause us to allow us to follow false doctrines and deceptions to continue unopposed for fear that "we might offend them." Many religious people feel that we ought to even give approval to things in religion which we feel are out of harmony with the scriptures "because of love and tolerance toward our neighbors." But the word of God teaches a very different love than this. Indeed, the Bible teaches us not to love everything. Soloman said, (There is) "A time to love and a time to hate." (Ecc. 3:8) Jesus "loved righteousness and hated iniquity." (Heb. 1:9) Paul said, "Abhor that which is evil." (Rom. 12:9) This is actually a negative aspect of love, for it is the hurtful design of evil that we hate and we hate it because it hurts those we love.

It is not an act of kindness to encourage a working of injury or ruin to a loved one. The fact that it is self inflicted does not alter the consequences. Nor does the fact that the person is deluded into a desire for it and might be angered at your efforts to help, change the final result either. And yet the presence of these two elements has caused many to conclude, "There are two things better not discussed between friends, religion and politics." But I wonder if you saw your friend with a loaded gun to his head about to take his own physical life, would you say, "There are two things I just don't want to talk about, guns and suicide."? You have the same elements to consider; he himself desires it and might get angry if you try to interfere and it is self inflicted. Yet what kind of a friend would not lift a finger to try to do something to help him change his mind, i. e. convert him?

Some think that love is an attitude of mind that causes us to just drift with the current to avoid discord. A denominational preacher recently accused me of being without love because I called in question some things he was teaching which were contrary to God's word. Some of our brethren feel that we ought not to try to "swim upstream." That we should just "teach the positive side of truth" and leave error alone. That sounds to me very much like a plan for "peaceful coexistence" with the devil. In other words, you go ahead and do your work and I'll do mine and we'll just not bother each other. This is not God's kind of love. "Not withstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols." (Rev. 2:20)

The earthly version of "love," if accepted generally, would accomplish at least four tragic and blasphemous results: 1. It would still the mouths of God's ministers. 2. It would draw the curtain of "privacy" to im-

(see page 6)

BIBLE SCHOOL (cont'd)

ors to be used (let's not make the children sit in a cold, unpainted, unattractive, dimly-lit room to study God's word!). See to proper ventilation, lighting, location of windows, location of doors and furniture, electrical outlets, etc. Provide for chalkboards, storage, teacher's desk. Make sure the furniture in each room is properly sized for the children that will use it! The Bible school in a real sense is in competition with the secular school. The best is none too good for the greatest work in which we shall engage: winning souls for Christ and then nurturing them till they all attain to the fulness of the measure of the stature of Christ!

6. PROPER EQUIPMENT must be provided for the bettering Bible school. Equipment is not teaching nor a substitute therefor. But look into the tool-kit of the carpenter, brick mason, mechanic. Each has what he needs to do his job well. Why not the Bible teacher? Does someone object that it costs money? Then spend money! The average church in the Carolinas would witness up to a 100% increase in the effectiveness and results of their Bible schools if they would just double the amount of money spent on their Bible schools! The term "equipment" is broad--it includes among others, books, projectors, filmstrips, flannelgraphs, chalk, paste, poster materials, pictures, slides, sand tables, easles, maps, charts. Of course discrimination in its selection is essential: then, these pieces of equipment must be properly, carefully, discriminatingly used if the desired results are to follow. And unless they are cared for, the investment will be wasted. But provide the equipment needed and improvement will follow. This is no place to argue that it costs money!

7. CURRICULUM must be constantly studied and improved. Fit the curriculum to the needs of the students; offer variety yet seek not for novelty. Encourage teachers, who are a vital part of the curriculum, to use their own ingenuity. Keep it Biblical, Christ centered.

The Bible school CAN be improved; let's make it better!

LOVE (cont'd)

pede the searching light of truth. 3. It would make bedfellows of Christ and Satan. 4. It would change the grace of God into lasciviousness.

Under this "shield" one could feign the approval of God upon anything. Some are doing it by reasoning that once they are saved they cannot be lost, therefore God will keep them saved, even in their wicked deeds. Others contend that one is powerless to do anything about his way of life until God miraculously acts upon him from above, thus making his sinful life a matter of God's choice and waiting upon him for an action to change it. This conceals the fact that God has already done his part in the matter and what is wanting now is action on the part of man.

Still others place God in the position of approving sin through the notion that a "priest" can grant indulgence in such with the approval of God and aurecular confession can remove the guilt in any cases not covered by indulgence.

Many do the same thing in effect with the notion that there is no need to be accurate in observing ceremonial instruction of the Bible. That sincerity is all that is required and ignorance will be a perfectly good excuse.

The king of "love" described above would leave these ruinous philosophies alone to accomplish their tragic objectives in a parade of lost souls, for "the wages of sin is death." (Rom. 6:23).

"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." (II Cor. 5:11) God loved man enough to attack the evil that threatened to ruin him. Even so we ought to love one another.

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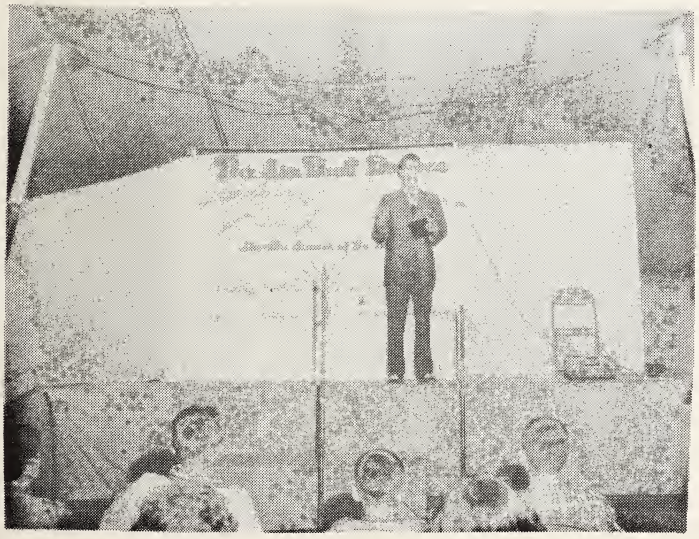
PREACHERS LOOK? (cont'd)

act as to distinguish myself from my brethren in Christ, I have no desire whatsoever. I want to be just a Christian and a servant of all.

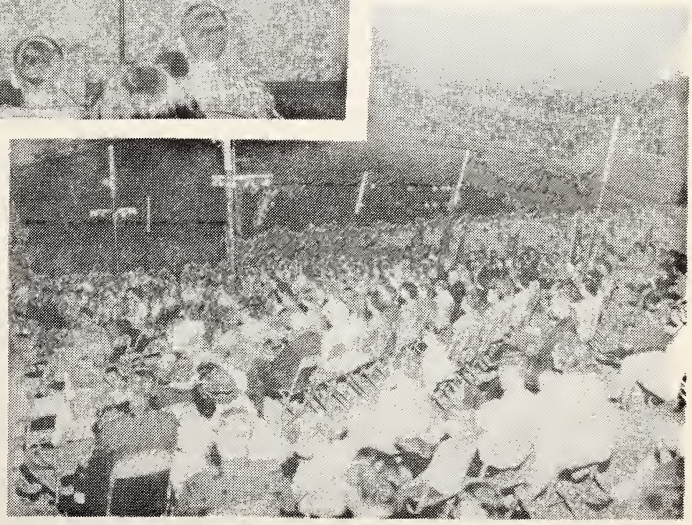
IT HAPPENED (cont'd)

the court does not approve of the way you are attired." He then gave instructions to the sherrif that no other witness would be allowed on the stand dressed in such a manner.

It struck me at the time that here indeed is something for our Christian women to ponder over. Should their standards in wearing apparel be less than that which would insult a court of law? I believe that the Bible teaches us to set an example before the world, and our young girls and women should not go into the public dressed in a manner that would cause reproach. It is quite so, that what you wear in the privacy of your own home is your own business, but it is just as true that what you wear in public is public business!



Bob Fogarty preaching under the Big Tent in Greenville, S.C.



A part of the crowd.

News

TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI
Dabney Phillips, Reporting
701 Magnolia Drive

Enclosed is my renewal for the coming year to the Carolina Messenger. It was my privilege to serve as the first business manager of the paper. I continue to maintain an interest in the paper, as I am vitally concerned with the work of the church in the Carolinas. Thus we anticipate each month's issue. Continued success to the Messenger.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

Our meeting with James Watkins of Chattanooga, Tennessee was well attended despite the very rainy weather and muddy roads due to construction in front of our building. We set three new records during the meeting. Highest attendance during the week was 85. The last Sunday the contribution -- $125.00 . The Sunday evening's attendance was 77. We are busy getting ready for the Big Tent Meeting.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
Wendover Ave. congregation
Albert Anderson Gonce, Reporting.

Our spring meeting with T. A. Isaacs as the visiting evangelist was the greatest yet. We had the largest attendance and the greatest number of responses. We had five baptisms and twenty restorations. Then after the meeting there was one restoration. This makes a total of 34 responses in 1961, excluding the placement of membership.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Reporting

Our meeting with Bro. Rudy Senn was well attended. Two were restored. Bro. Senn did some real fine preaching. I recommend him to any congregation that needs someone in a meeting.

The meeting at Trenton, Ga. was well attended with 8 baptized. I plan to leave Moore in Sept. after 6 years of very pleasant work. If any congregation is in need of my meager ability, please contact me at my home address - 29 - 8th. St. Judson, Greenville, S. C.

TRYON, N. C.
Mrs. Ernest Haynes, Reporting

We have just concluded a very inspirational meeting with Bro. C.H. Woodroof of Columbia, S. C. doing the preaching. Even though we were sometimes small in number and had no responses, we older members feel that much needed and lasting good was done throughout the community by Bro. Woodroof.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone from all supporting congregations who took any part toward the support of this meeting.

My family and I regret very much that we are leaving this congregation for it has helped us in so many ways. We shall never cease to pray for this church as well as the other numerous congregations throughout the Carolinas.

VALDESE, N. C.
Bill G. Smith, Minister
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Brother and Sister Carley Welborn are now working with the Lenoir church. This makes our number on roll 27 instead

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VALDESE (cont'd)

of 29, and takes the count of four away from our attendance (father, mother and two children). Although Bro. Welborn has a full-time job in a super market, he is teaching a class on Sunday morning and Wednesday night and preaching on Sunday morning and night. The family spends one afternoon a week visiting in and around Lenoir and planned visits at night. The Valdese church wishes them well in their new undertaking.

Our minister in Valdese, Bro. Bill G. Smith held a gospel meeting in Spartanburg, S. C. the week of May 14-20. He is supported in this work by the church in Valdese.

The church in Valdese will hold our gospel meeting July 9-15 with Bro. T. A. Isaacs of Charlotte as the visiting evangelist. A vacation Bible school is to be held during the morning hours on these dates. There will be a full report on this meeting later.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
Joe Costilow, Reporting

The church surpassed its goal of 45 in Bible class on March 26 having 49 present for class and 51 for the worship service. Both of these figures represent all time highs. Since that special effort the attendance has continued to hold up well with the April weekly average being the highest yet. Since our last report there have been three baptisms and one has placed membership. On Sunday, May 21st., we are beginning a weekly radio program, "The Bible Forum of the Air," on local station WCEC.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

Bro. T. A. Isaacs is in a meeting at Columbia, S. C., Park Street church. The Plaza members have enjoyed the good lessons at Gastonia by Bro. Ray Fullerton who is in the middle of their 7 day meeting.

We start a personal visitation program next week. Workers will assemble at the church building and make their call from there. This is a sorely needed work and is being met with good enthusiasm by the members. I know of no better way to build and keep strong the church of the LORD than by a regular visitation program.

Our new rest room facilities are finished and we feel we have the physical means to administer the spiritual needs of this area. GOD grant us the zeal that we may tell others the reason for our great hope.

In the last two weeks we have had 3 baptisms and 4 restorations for which we thank GOD and the great power of HIS gospel.

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.
Charles A. Hess, Reporting

The congregation here began meeting last October and at present services are held in 205 Alumni Building on the University of North Carolina Campus. Attendance averages approximately twenty. Contributions for April averaged $36.00. From the very beginning, Ensley congregation in Birmingham has sent us $400.00 monthly to support a preacher. At present we are hoping to contact an evangelist who is interested in working in this university town. We would consider a man who takes a partial school load. Since the beginning of the work two have been baptized and one has been restored. The congregations at nearby Raleigh and Durham have given us their help and moral support. Mail ad-

CHAPEL HILL (cont'd)

dressed to the church may be marked: P. O. Box 1114, Chapel Hill, N. C.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray Fullerton, Reporting

Bible school and worship attendance at Goldsboro continues to encourage workers there. Since our meeting one has been baptized, one restored.

In our meeting with the Fayetteville church, April 9-15, there were no responses. The meeting with South Main, Winston Salem, April 23-28, resulted in one restoration, one baptism. There J. D. Parker continues to deserve the highest regard of the members. This report is written in the midst of a meeting at Gastonia where there thus far has been two baptisms.

ELBERTON, GA.
Stanley D. Crews, Reporting

The churches of northeast Ga. and Anderson, S. C. conduct a singing one Sunday afternoon every other month. This month the singing was scheduled for Anderson and was held from 3 to 4 P.M. on Sunday, May 21.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Bill Perkins, Reporting

The past month or so brought me special joy: Carolina Lectures, speaking one night, seeing Christians working in hard places, enjoying a most wonderful fellowship.

A meeting (training for service) here at Warners Chapel was perhaps the first in the Carolinas. C. W. Bradley, Albert Gonce, and my wife, Peggy, taught classes after special lectures each night on Bible School and Personal work. It was my wife's first work of this kind. Her classes on teaching, the Christian wife, and Woman were well received. She has since taught them at two other places and would, when arrangements can be made, be glad to assist other churches.

A meeting with Peytona, W. Va. was most thrilling--12 responses and considering the average attendance on Sunday morning of 50, 100 to 160 each night brought great joy. Again, I spoke at an early service on Sunday evening for the Kanawha City church in Charleston where I formerly worked. They hope to be in their new building being completed soon. Five from here spoke while I was away. These would be willing to fill-in at other places in this area. The new "Herald of Truth" film series comes into this area on Channel 2 at 1 P.M. Brethren, this new series should be highly advertized! It is splendid! On May 7th. through the 13th. I will be at Aberdeen, N. C. in a meeting. The Warners Chapel radio program each Sunday at 9:15 A. M. can be heard over WTOB, 1380 on the dial.

WATERTOWN, TENNESSEE
Bobby Reynolds, Reporting

The church here is sending $150 to the church at Shelby, N. C. in $15 monthly installments to purchase a projector and screen for cottage meeting use. The Central church in Houston, Texas has bought a set of film strips for them.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton Elkins, Reporting

We have had another baptism since the report in May. This makes 5 additions in 1961, and we are very grateful to the Lord for the way he has blessed

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BRYSON CITY (cont'd)

us here. We have a meeting scheduled in June, 4-11, with Bro. Billingsley of Nashville. I will preach in a meeting in my home town, Quincy, Florida, in October.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Noyles Sewell, Reporting

Another was baptized this month making a total of five so far this year. Our last six converts here average over sixty years of age. I will be in a meeting in Statesville, N. C. about the middle of May. My address after June 1st. will be Box 1083, Kinston, N. C.

WILLISTON, S. C.
Paul Wilkinson, Reporting

Interest still continues as reported last month. Three young ladies, one being my daughter, were baptized into Christ the seventh of May.

We would like to see this interest continue when I leave this work, but as yet have not heard from any preachers. If you know of any who are desiring to make a change, please have them check the possibilities here. If you know of congregations needing preachers, please let me know.

DUNCAN, S. C.
Rudy Senn, Reporting

We at Duncan are happy to report six baptisms and four confessions of fault during the past month. Four of the baptisms occured during our spring meeting. Bro. Burl Curtis of the Northeast congregation in Greenville was the speaker. He did a masterful job of presenting the truth. It was the best attended meeting that we have had in sometime.

Our attendance has been on the increase and several records have been broken. Average attendance for Bible study was 72 in April. For the morning worship an average of 80 was recorded. Daily Bible reading has increased over the past month from 30% to 80% and higher. Our elders, Bro. Paul Rodgers and Bro. J. W. DeYoung, continue to lead us in a fine way. We have been greatly encouraged and thank God for all his wonderful blessings.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Robert Carrell, Reporting

Our meeting with Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. was held May 3-14. Three were baptized and a record for week night attendance was set with an average of 101. It was the best attended meeting in the history of the congregation. Sam Durrance was the song director. There have been five baptisms here since the 1st. of Feb.

□□□□□

MAKE YOUR CALLING SURE
by Madeline C. Brown

We know the name of Christ is safe,
So that's the name to wear;
There is a doubt to man-made names,
But CHRIST'S good anywhere.
We read of Christians in God's Book,
So know that CHRISTIAN'S right;
An added prefix might get by,
But why accept just "might"?
God adds the saved ones to His church,
That church which is so pure;
There is a doubt for those who're out,
But IN the church 'tis sure.
You never would accept a check,
Endorsed by one in doubt;
And neither would you cross a bridge,
That was not proven stout.
So why not read the Bible, friends?
Believe it and obey;
Add nothing to, take nothing from-
This is the ONE sure way!

Written May 14, 1961.

Announcing

A Public Religious Discussion

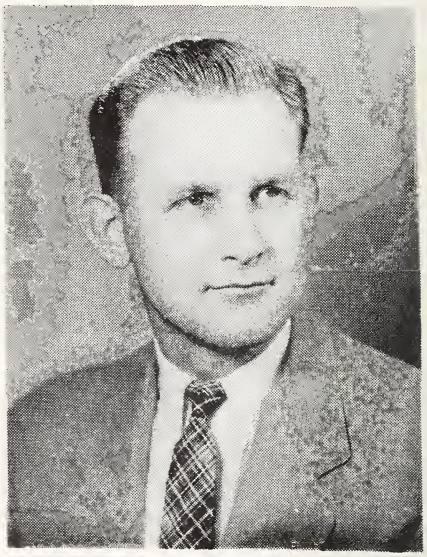


C. V. MARTIN
Orrville Baptist Church

AFFIRMS

"The Scriptures teach the sinner is saved by grace through faith before water baptism."

"The Scriptures teach the child of God, one washed by the blood of Christ, is so saved that he is in a relationship to God beyond the possibility of ever afterwards being lost in hell."



BARNEY CARGILE, JR.
Anderson Church of Christ

AFFIRMS

"The Scriptures teach water baptism to the penitent believer is for (in order to obtain) remission of sins."

"The Scriptures teach the child of God, one washed by the blood of Christ, may so apostatize as to be finally lost in hell."
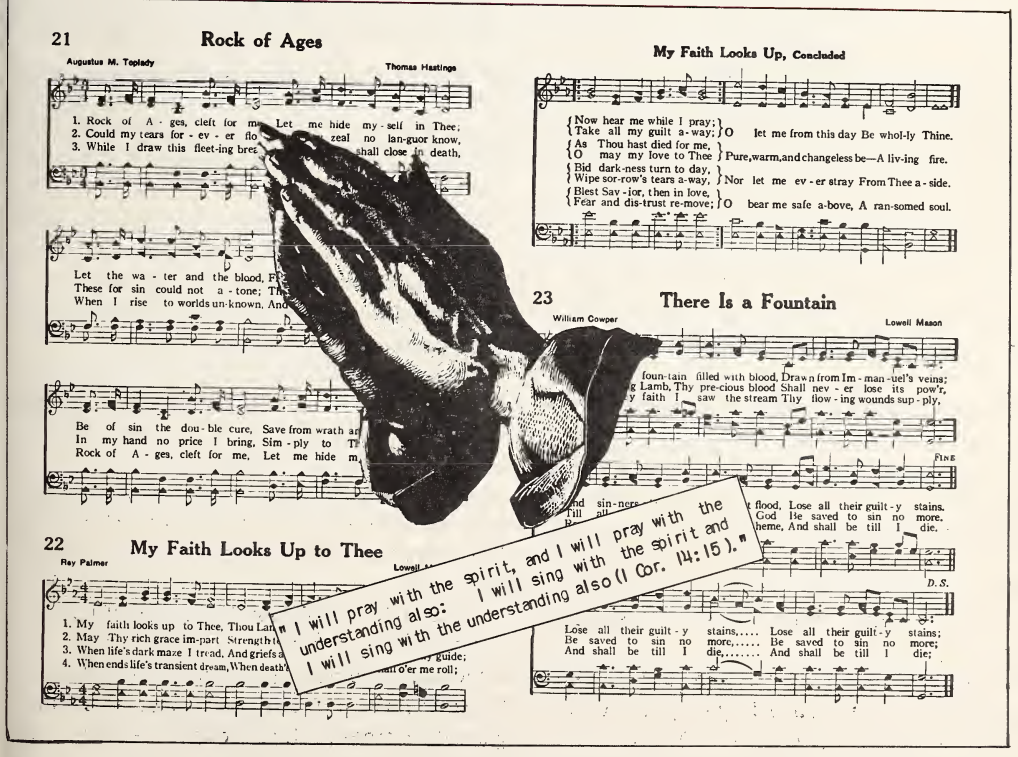
JUNE 26 27 29 30

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
708 W. WHITNER

7:30 P. M.
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

NO COLLECTIONS

Carolina Messenger of Truth



JULY 1961

GREENVILLE MEETING

Many things were outstanding about the Fogarty Tent Meeting in Greenville, S. C. Perhaps two outrank all the others--the extensive advertizing and the great amount of personal work.

The churches in the Greenville area have always had meetings and tried to make them as effective as possible but no meeting in the past has prompted as much conversation and work. It was common to hear the meeting discussed in the bank, grocery store and mill. Everyone, in this city with a metropolitan population of 140,000, as far as we knew, heard about the meeting. This was accomplished by numerous large ads appearing every third day in the two leading newspapers by daily spot announcements on four of the radio stations, and by the broadcast of the Sunday evening services.

In previous meetings a local congregation would perhaps distribute 1,000 personal invitations door to door. With this maximum number, the six congregations would distribute 6,000 invitations in their six separate meetings. For the Fogarty Meeting approximately 25,000 personal invitations were distributed by these congregations or over 4 times the maximum amount previously used. Most of these were personally handed to the people with the simple statement, "We would like to invite you to our tent meeting." Five hundred bumper stickers were used and about 600 window posters. Two large street banners were used. There can be no doubt that more people did "personal work" for this meeting than for any meeting previously held.

The Fogarty Meeting attracted much free advertizment. Bro. Jack Fogarty appeared on three television programs. Many radio spots were given. The Carolina Messenger of Truth, a religious monthly, gave three back page ads and one smaller ad in the inside pages, to the effort. The local newspapers were cooperative in running news stories. The cost of these would have

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A STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION

E. D. McDaniel, Elder
Judson Church of Christ
Greenville, S. C.

The elders at Judson have made a special request for the opportunity to express our appreciation, first of all, to all those on the Fogarty team. We are also indebted to the Coleman Elders. While we were able to raise $1,300.00, we know without the financial assistance of many others, the meeting would not have been possible. We do not know how to express our appreciation adequately.

(see page 7)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Ray Taylor, Publisher
Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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AIM CORRECTLY

PRINCIPLES FOR GUIDING THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Ray. D. Fullerton, Jr.
Goldsboro, N. C.

One often overlooked method of improving the educational work in the church is the understanding and selection of proper aims. The Bible School itself must be directed toward the achievement of ultimate, satisfactory aims. Each lesson, before it is successfully taught or learned, must be properly aimed.

What is the end of Christian education? What is its ultimate aim? Sewell and Speck say it is "The development and guidance of Christian personality." Eavey says, "The object of teaching a child is to enable him to get along without his teacher." Eavey also comments that the purpose of Christian teaching is "to assist each individual pupil to live as he was created to live, in order that he may become what his Creator destined him to be." The Bible supplies these suggestions: "That the man of God may be complete, thoroughly furnished unto every good work;" and, "till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

These ultimate aims, of this one final aim, is reached best when each teacher teaches each lesson with needed, specific and understood aims in mind. These aims will generally be classified under one of these headings:

1. INFORMATION AS AIM--"What do I want my students to know?" There must be a deposit of knowledge; unless the student learns, the teacher has not taught. "The informed mind is one that has been 'formed from within,' that is, knowledge has become a possession through a formative process." (Dobbins) The student must become familiar with facts, events, principles; he must have growing comprehension of the Bible, of Christianity, the church; he must become aware of present-day circumstances and needs.

2. INSPIRATION AS AIM--"How do my students feel? How do I want them to feel?" Emotion must be touched in teaching; until it is, knowledge is cold and lifeless. Students must be impelled to develop right attitudes, warmth, responsiveness, high ideals, loyalties, enthusiasm -- which lead them to action and to a true sense of what is worthwhile in life.

3. DETERMINATION AS AIM--"What choices do I want my students to make?" A determined will must be brought into play even in the process of conversion. "Choose ye!" The teacher moulds a life by aiming at the will which directs that life.

4. APPLICATION AS AIM--"What do I want my students to do about it?" The foolish man is the one who hears but does not; the facts must be applied or learning is incomplete.

5. CONSECRATION AS AIM--"What sort of character do I wish to produce from my teaching?" "The development of Christian character." This is the ultimate--the dedicated life which comes as a result of our teaching.

Let the teacher write out the aim or aims of every lesson--is it "to teach the details of the tabernacle and its worship and to show God's plan must be followed in every detail?" Then spell it out and proceed.

The Teacher--A Vital Link

When we consider that Christianity is a taught religion, that the disciples of Christ are to teach every nation, that all shall be taught of God, that man is drawn to God as he hears and learns, we must acknowledge the importance of the teacher. Care and discernment must be exercised in the selection of teachers for Bible classes. Let no one teach who does not want to teach, who does not love the thought of working with and moulding the lives of those under his care. James F. Cox,

(see page 4)

AIM CORRECTLY (cont'd)

author of TEACHING GOD'S WORD, lists these qualities in a good Bible teacher: frankness, sincerity, cheerfulness, optimism, healthy and energetic, a modulated voice, neatness and modesty of dress, good judgment and common sense, tact, resourcefulness, diplomacy, clean in body and mind, sympathetic, kindness, love for people, faith in the gospel--a genuine Christian.

TEACHERS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THEY CAN IMPROVE THEIR TEACHING. A self-satisfied teacher is ready to quit. The good Bible teacher must constantly seek self-improvement through study of God's word, prayer, observation, study of the literature on the subject of Christian teaching, attending teachers' meetings and workshops, diligent preperation, and through evaluation of the results of teaching.

If we are to pay "honor to whom honor" is due, let us not forget the Bible teacher; give them the recognition they merit. They work with our most prized possessions: our children.

Plan for profitable teachers' meetings, provide them with the literature, books, magazines and other teacher helps they need. A few dollars wisely invested here will pay rich dividends in an improved Bible School in your congregation.

Ira North, in his prized book, YOU CAN MARCH FOR THE MASTER, says, "A safe philisophy for selecting teachers can be stated thus: Choose the kind of person you want the pupil to become. Remember, children seldom lead--they follow. The teacher must not only teach the truth, but, we repeat, must live it. The teacher's life will make the most powerful impact on the student. It is an honor to teach. It is a responsibility. It is a challenge. It is an opportunity. It is not to be taken lightly or esteemed a little thing. There is no greater way to serve!"

Good Organization--A MUST

A Bible School must be well organized to grow; if the church is to grow, its Bible School must be well organized--"let all things be done decently and in order!"

Whether we call the final results of our organizational efforts, "departments" or "divisions," we shall nevertheless, in most churches, have from three to eight departments. These might be: CHILDREN (Ages 0-11); YOUNG PEOPLE (Ages 12-24); ADULTS (Over 24).

Departmentalization might be expanded: PRE-SCHOOL (Or Beginners); PRIMARY; JUNIOR; INTERMEDIATE; YOUNG PEOPLE; ADULTS. In addition, there may be the NURSERY (Or Cradle Roll) DEPARTMENT.

In the final article some of the chief characteristics of these groups (age characterisitcs are basic to our selection of teaching aims) will be noted.

Teacher training might be handled on a departmental organization. (At Goldsboro, all our teachers meet together; and several of our classes are actually "departments" within themselves. All Intermediates, all Juniors, meet together.) Certainly the children should be separated into groups with similar characteristics, backgrounds, needs and interests.

There are numerous advantages in paying close attention to divisions within the Bible School: (1) More effecient teaching--needs better met; (2) Easier and more effective oversight; (3) More rapid growth; statistics prove that when one class is divided, growth ensues, perhaps because (4) More workers are enlisted.

Let us seek improvemant in Bible School Aims, in Bible School Teaching and in Bible School Organization.

NINE YEARS AGO IN NORTH CAROLINA

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

In June, 1952 while laboring with the Broad Street church of Christ in Statesville, N. C., I printed the following ar-

(see page 7)

A LETTER OF INTEREST

Noyles E. Sewell sent the following letter which you might find interesting as a matter of history.

Salisbury, N. C.
February 8, 1926

Dear Sister Martin:

Here at last is a list of the congregations in N. C.

1. Ephesus, Davie Co.
   Address, M. A. Foster, Mocksville, Route 4
2. Abilene, near Statesville, N. C.
   Address, Tom Fox, Statesville, Rt. 4
3. Corinth, Rowan Co.
   Address, N. A. Burton, Cleveland, Rt. 1
4. Warners Chapel, Forsyth Co.
   Address, J. W. Warner, Clemmons, Rt. 1
5. Boyers, Forsyth Co.
   Add., Orlands Wright, Clemmons, Rt. 1
6. Corinth, Stokes Co.
   Add., W. R. Petree, Germanton, Rt. 1
7. Haw Pond, Stokes Co.
   Add., W. S. Crews, Germanton, Rt. 1
8. Jericho, Davie Co.
   Add., J. L. Kerfees, Mocksville, N. C.
9. Kannapolis, N. C.
   Add., C. C. Stonestreet, Kannapolis, N. C.
10. Winston-Salem, N. C.
    Add., W. L. Reeves, Box 419
11. Salisbury, N. C.
    Add., P. R. Cagle, 213 W. Monroe St.

There is a church at Marshall also one at Newport or 5 miles out from that place called Vermolia or something like it but I don't know any of the brethren at those places. Well sister Martin I am glad to be able to tell you that I am some better physically than when I wrote you last. With Christian love. Let me hear from you. (Signed) Mrs. Cagle

ERE THE SETTING OF THE SUN

When the dawn breaks in crimson tide,
O'er eastern hills begins to glide,
And the day is just begun,
Do we think what the day may mean,
What worthy actions may be seen,
Ere the setting of the sun?

When the thrush sings his morning note,
And fairly splits his little throat,
Ere his lovely song is done,
Do we think of a song to sing,
And gladness to some sad soul bring,
Ere the setting of the sun?

When the heat comes on with the day,
The burning glare of noonday's ray,
And the day is now half done,
To those who find it hard to live,
A cup of water do we give,
Ere the setting of the sun?

When the sun just keeps going on,
And the day is very far gone,
Have we any glory won,
By words of kindness, noble art,
Have we soothed just one broken heart,
Ere the setting of the sun?

When we reach the end of the day,
Will we see the "Light of the Way,"
When our journey here is done,
Will our calling have been made sure,
Our hope of heaven quite secure,
Ere the setting of life's sun?

Mary Farmer McCay
729 Clairmont Ave.
Decatur, Georgia

ORDER THESE - -
Tracts - Jehovah's Witness and Baptism, by Thomas Eaves, $6.00 per 100.
I am Methodist, Presbyterian, Holiness, etc., by Noyles E. Sewell, $5.00 per 100.
SPECIAL ISSUES OF MESSENGER
April - Old and New Covenant, $5.00 per 100; January - 10 Most Frequent Ques -

(see page 6)

THE PARABLE OF A GOOD VACATIONIST

Now it came to pass as summer drew nigh that a certain church member lifted up his eyes unto the hills and said, "Lo, the hot and humid days are come when the heart of man faileth him; the sweat runneth down in great rivers, and the cares of life become greater than the spirit of man can bear. Yea, they are even now upon us! Let us go, therefore, even now in haste to the seashore where the cool breeze will refresh us, or to the high mountains of the land where the wonderful scenery will bring joy to our hearts."

Then said his good wife unto him, "Thou hast spoken wisely. Yet, ere we depart, there are three things, nay even four things that we must do." And the church member said unto his good and obedient spouse, "Four things? Three I can think of. We must arrange for our flowers to be watered; likewise, our daily paper must be discontinued, and surely we must contact the milkman, but the fourth escapeth me. Perhaps, it is the effect of the heat upon my poor, tired brain!" "The fourth thing is like unto the first three, my dear," answered the good wife, "only more important!" "Before thou goest, thou shalt dig down into thy pocket and contribute thine offering to the Lord, that the good name of the church be preserved, and that it may be well with thee in the years that are to come. For verily, I say unto thee, that thou hast more money now than thou wilt have when thou returnest."

So it came to pass that the church member sat down at his desk and wrote a check and gave it into the hands of the treasurer; who, when he had received it, said, "Of a truth I perceive that there are still those who love the Lord!"

--Gospel Digest

THE OLD AND NEW LAW COMPARED

(The first one applies to the old law, the second one to the new law.)

1. The letter killeth (II Cor. 3:6)
   The spirit giveth life (Rom. 8:2)
2. Ministration of death (II Cor. 3:7)
   Ministration of spirit (II Cor. 3:8)
3. Ministration of condemnation, v. 9
   Ministration of righteousness
4. Written in stones (II Cor. 3:7)
   Written in the heart (II Cor. 3:3)
5. Glorious, done away (II Cor. 3:14)
   More glorious, remaineth
6. Veil upon the heart (II Cor. 3:14)
   Veil taken away
7. The Old Testament (II Cor. 3:14)
   The New Testament
8. Spoken to fathers by prophets (Heb. 8:
   Spoken to us by Son 8,9; 1:1,2)
9. Changeable priesthood (Heb. 7:12)
   Unchangeable priesthood (Heb. 7:24)
10. Imperfect priesthood (Heb. 7:12)
    Perfect priest (Heb. 7:26)
11. Priests of tribe of Levi (Heb. 7:5)
    Christ of tribe of Judah (Heb. 7:14)
12. Priesthood changed (Heb. 7:13)
    The law changed (Heb. 7:12)
13. Priests without oath (Heb. 7:21)
    Christ by oath (Heb. 7:28)
14. Shadow of good things (Heb. 9:1-9)
    The substance (Heb. 10:1)
15. Blood of animals (Heb. 10:4)
    Blood of Christ (Heb. 9:14)
16. No forgiveness (Heb. 10:3)
    Sins forgiven and forgotten (Heb. 8:12)
17. The old way (Heb. 9:19-23)
    The new and living way (Heb. 10:20)
18. Tabernacle made with hands (Heb. 9:24)
    Tabernacle made without hands (9:11)
19. For Jews (Gen. 17:13)
    For every creature (Mk. 16:15,16)
20. First taken away (Heb. 8:13)
    Second established (Heb. 10:9)

The Old made Jews
The New makes Christians

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tions, $10.00 per 100; any back issue can be furnished as long as supply lasts at 15¢ each. You might want to complete your set.

Carolina Directory of churches of Christ, $1.00 each.

GREENVILLE (cont'd)

been hundreds of dollars, but were free for this meeting.

In addition the churches of Christ in this immediate area are convinced that they can and should work together scripturally. This meeting was under the oversight of the Judson elders, E. D. McDaniel and Joe Tripp. They very wisely requested the advice and suggestions of the various participating congregations. Because of this the planning and work were accomplished without disagreement. The spirit of unity was perfect. It was pleasant to behold. Surely this feeling of unity will be maintained and even deepened.

The attendance was good for this area and, as expected, the congregations for miles around gave their presence to the meeting. One night a chartered bus came from Charlotte, N. C. and visitors were abundant from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee. The number of "non-member" visitors surpassed the expectation of many of the more optimistic.

The visible results of the meeting were 23 baptisms and 21 restorations.

STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION (cont'd)

We also appreciate the extra effort our local preachers put forth. Almost daily Bro.'s Curtis, Lancaster, Postlethwait and Thigpen were busy in both physical and spiritual labors. The brethren from Duncan and Easley, S. C. also gave utmost cooperation.

Countless others have our thanks and will be remembered in our prayers. Some day we hope to return every favor.

NINE YEARS AGO (cont'd)

ticle in the bulletin. Today, nine years later, it may prove interesting to compare the picture then with that of the present. To some the growth may seem rather slow, but be assured there has been a tremendous growth.

"A recent survey shows the following facts regarding the church of Christ in North Carolina: There are 40 congregations with a combined membership of around 1,800 members. The combined weekly contributions average $2,315.00 or $1.30 per member. At least 25 of these congregations have been established within the past six or seven years. Approximately 20 buildings have been erected or purchased within this same period. There are at present 15 weekly radio programs in addition to the Nation-Wide program which is being carried on 5 or 6 stations. Approximately 20 men are devoting full time to preaching the gospel and several others are preaching part time."

"The above figures do not include the congregations among the colored people. There are from 8 to 10 congregations among them."

MARVIN CHAVIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Readers are reminded to promote the special Marvin Chavis Scholarship Fund, details of which were announced in the June issue of this magazine, to encourage Christians and churches where they are to disseminate information concerning this Fund. Its purpose is to enable worthy young people to attend Carolina Bible Camp. Ask church bulletin editors to give notice; preachers, elders, etc., to announce to congregations. Four young people who could not otherwise afford to go to Camp will be sent this year. They can be from member or nonmember homes but must be recommended by a Christian in the Carolinas. APPLICATION BLANKS prepared by the Scholarship Committee must be used. Write the Chairman, Ray D. Fullerton, Jr., Box 116, Goldsboro, N. C., for a copy of the blank on which to submit recommendations for recipients of these scholarships.

NEWS

KINSTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

I enjoyed working with Harold Scott in a meeting in Statesville during May. One was baptized and two were added the week following the meeting. One was baptized in Wilmington during May, making a total of six adults baptized there this year.

The work here at Kinston has great possibilities. Three families living in or near Greenville, N. C. and presently worshipping here will begin meeting in Greenville on July 2 in the home of N. F. Merritt, 305 Meade St. They look forward to the arrival of Bro. Mannon, a fully supported evangelist, in August.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Fairview congregation
Ray Smith, Reporting

During the month of May and since our last report the attendance has been about average: 33; and the contribution about $32.00. We have just experienced a wonderful gospel meeting with Bro. Bill G. Smith of Valdese, N. C. as the speaker. I feel sure that everyone that attended those services received much good from doing so. Since our last report there have been 5 responses to the invitation, all restorations.

On Sunday June 11, 1961 we began our weekly radio program on station WCKI in Greer, S. C. According to the information received from informed sources, radio station WCKI has a listening audience of approximately 1/2 million people. We feel sure that this radio program will be a great aid in carrying the gospel to the world. Bro. F. G. Smith is the speaker on this program. The program can be heard from 1:00 to 1:30 P. M. each Sunday. We have just begun having regular cottage prayer meetings once each week. We have certainly enjoyed the Tent Meeting at the fairgrounds in Greenville, S. C. Two of the responses in the Tent Meeting were those of unfaithful members of the Fairview congregation. We rejoiced exceedingly to see these two restored to the Lord.

We are still seeking to secure a regular preacher. We cannot do so unless we can get some support to pay his salary. Anyone knowing where we may be able to get some support for a preacher, please contact: Ray Smith, 126 Hall St., Spartanburg, S. C. We are still enjoying the Carolina Messenger of Truth each month and I find myself looking eagerly for the next issue. I enjoy the articles in it as well as reading the news about the other congregations. I feel that the Messenger will grow.

KOREA
SFC Oscar P. Craft RA14369312
Co. D, 8th. Engr. Bn.
APO #24
San Francisco, Calif.

The work here is encouraging at this time. There are a number of American and Korean congregations worshipping in Korea now.

Our local congregation is presently made up of seven soldiers in this area. We hold services each Lord's Day at 2:30 PM in the chapel of the 23rd Transportation Bn.

Today marked the beginning of two more congregations in the 1st Calvary Division. At one of these services there were twenty-four present.

We have high hopes of enlarging our number. We have the names of several more in the area but who are not attending at present.

It seems as though a lot of people when they leave the U. S. for an overseas assignment leave their religious way of life at the port of embarkation. This is a very sad thing. The percentage of people in this category is about 90%. Does this large number include some of your relatives or friends? If it does we would appreciate your writing them a letter of encouragement and ask them to contact the writer at this address. We will be more

KOREA (cont'd)

than happy to furnish them with the location of the nearest congregation to them.

We realize there is one big problem in the attendance. That is in transportation.

We have ordered 100 copies of the January issue of the Messenger. We are putting them in the chapels throughout the 1st Calvary Division.

Bro. and Sis. Dan Hardin, the missionaries in Seoul, were present with us for services today.

We continue to receive the Messenger while here and receive much encouragement and spiritual food from it.

We covet the prayers of all in our efforts in Korea.

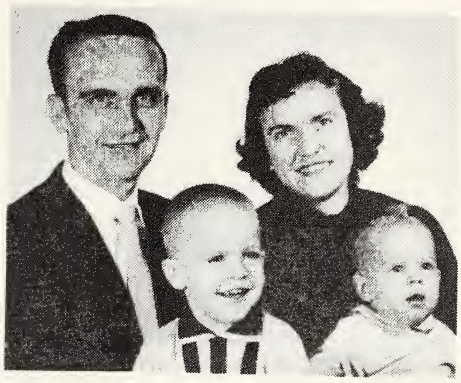
VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

After much tireless and continuous teaching of the Gospel by Bro. Ralph Lowtharpe of his friend and co-worker, assisted by a cottage Bible class every week conducted by our preacher, this man was converted to the truth, and on May 25, 1961, was baptized into the body of Christ, and became our Brother Newton. We rejoice that this is so.

We wish to take this opportunity to invite everyone within driving distance to our town to attend our meeting, July 9-15, each evening at 8 o'clock. Bro. T. A. Isaacs of the Plaza church in Charlotte will be the speaker. We are also working for a good vacation Bible school for the children during that week.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Kenneth Warmbrod, Reporting

The colored Christians, working with the assistance of Jaconis Williams, had one baptism in May. We plan to install new deacons on June 18. Our major activities this summer will include Vacation Bible School on July 17-22 and our Gospel Meeting to be conducted by Bro. Fullerton of Goldsboro on Oct. 1-8. We are happy to announce that our attendance has increased greatly during the past few weeks.



BILL SHELTON AND FAMILY

On May 7, the church of Christ here at Raleigh received into its membership brother and sister Bill Shelton. A housewarming party was held for him, his wife, and his two fine sons on the previous Friday. Bro. Shelton has been a minister for five years, three of which have been spent at Hartsville, Tenn. He also spent some time teaching in the Hartsville public school. Bro. Shelton has attended David Lipscomb College and Middle Tenn. State, where he received a B. S. degree in education. Bro. Shelton will be working with us in the coming months, helping to further the cause of Christ's glorious kingdom.

CHEROKEE, N. C.
Chester A. Hunnicut, Reporting

WANTED 100 PERSONAL WORKERS. During the month of July, we plan the 3rd annual meeting at Cherokee, N. C. We would like to have 25 personal workers each week, a total of 100. From the ages of 15 to 70 are planning to work with us. We have work for all ages. If you think you might come for a few days or the full time, please write to me: P. O. Box 42, Cherokee, N. C. The preachers who will

CHEROKEE (cont'd)

speak a week at a time are Ermon Bain, Barry Anderson, Virgil Richie and Chief Toahty. We hope to have this meeting in our new building which is under construction. We have had one baptism recently. We had 62 present Sunday. Pray for us and these neglected people, the Cherokee Indians.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza congregation

We have just concluded the most successful Vacation Bible School in the history of this congregation. Many were a little skeptical about having it at night for fear that it would not appeal to the young people but to the contrary we had more young people and the adults were able to attend. The enthusiasm and cooperation of those attending this school was of the highest quality.

Attendance-wise, we averaged 190 for the five nights. This attendance was made possible by all, but in a special way by the young people. Some of them had visitors every night. We had many visitors from the Dilworth congregation and for their assistance in helping us make our school successful, we are most grateful.

ROCK HILL, S. C.
Al Frakes, Reporting

A YEAR IN THE CAROLINAS. The Frakes family has just concluded a year's work with the church in Rock Hill, S. C. It has truly been one of the happiest and most profitable years of our lives. We have made new friends, and met a great number of new brethren. As we begin our second year with the church we solicit your prayers and continued efforts in helping us preach the gospel of Christ.

June 6, 1960 the church in Rock Hill dedicated their new building; this was our first service with them. Two were baptized that day, eight more have been baptized since. Two have been restored and seven placed membership. A total of 19 additions in all. On June 6, 1960 we had a record high in attendance of 71. Since that time our record has reached 97 and our average for the month of May was 87. Contribution for the year averaged $169.00 per week. We have an active program which includes a daily dial-a-devotion thru telephone facilities, mid-week meditation each Wednesday, 9:05 to 9:20 A. M. over WRHI radio station, Herald of Truth, 5:35 P. M. each Sunday over the same station, the Carolina Messenger of Truth goes into each home of members of the congregation, food bank for the needy, and clothes for the needy.

We also have a zoning program. A very successful vacation Bible school was conducted for the first time August, 1960. This is also a part of our program this year. Excluding the Herald of Truth, all the above programs have been added in a years work. Truly the church in Rock Hill is on the march. The Frakes family give thanks to the brethren and friends of S. C. for one of the happiest of our 14 years in the ministry of Christ. God bless you is our prayer. Help us to help you.

I have time for a fall and spring meeting, preferably in the Carolinas. They can be mission meetings if need be. Contact me at 1090 Evergreen Cr., Rock Hill, S. C.

ATTENTION YOUNG PEOPLE

There will be a youth meeting at the church building located at 339 Charlotte Ave., Rock Hill, S. C., July 16 at 3:00 PM. The service will be conducted entirely by young people.

EASLEY, S. C.
Francis Gregory, Reporting

Barney Cargile, Jr. will conduct a meeting here July 9-16. Services will be at 7:00 P. M. each evening. We were happy to have 3 baptisms in the Greenville tent meeting.

What Are Your Chances?

One Negro was worrying about the chance of his being drafted for the army. The other consoled him.

"There's two things that can happen, boy. You is either drafted or you ain't drafted. If you ain't, you can forget it; if you is, you still got two chances. You may be sent to the front, and you may not.

"If you go to the front, you still has two chances, you may get shot and you may not. If you get shot, you still has two chances. You may die and you may not! And if you die you still have two chances."

One's chances at being drafted are largely dependent on others than himself. His chances for heaven are determined by the individual himself. "That each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he hath done, whether it be good or bad" is the purpose of the judgment (II Cor. 5:10).

If you are lost, you are without excuse. Your salvation now depends upon you. You have the opportunity to be saved. It requires taking time out to learn the truth, the way God intends for man to worship and live, what you must do in order to be saved. You can learn error as easily as you learn truth. "There are many false prophets gone out into the world" (I John 1:1).

It will take some private study on your part to make sure. It will necessitate a sincere investigation of the Bible. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). In order to be a disciple of Christ this is essential. "If you abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples" (Vs. 31).

A man is never abiding in Jesus' word if he joins a church Jesus word does not mention, wears a name it does not authorize, or worships in a way it does not prescribe.

"The disciples were called Christians" (Acts 11:26), and they were all members of the church of the Lord (Acts 2:47). The individual congregations of the Lord's body were known as "the churches of Christ" (Romans 16:16).

To "give the more diligence to make our calling and election sure," to make our chances for heaven as certain as possible, churches of Christ remain faithful to the Bible, refusing to "go beyond the things that are written." This is the only way to do it. When we do Bible things in Bible ways, and call Bible things by Bible names, speak where the Bible speaks, and be silent where the Bible is silent, we have divine assurance that we are safe.

Plainly, that is the purpose and position of the churches of Christ. They are not a denomination, and have no denominational machinery. They are simply New Testament Christians, doing the Lord's will in the Lord's own appointed way.

It will be a mighty fine thing to attend the church of Christ in your community and see if these things are so. Won't you do that now?

Because the church is the body of Christ, and since one cannot be saved out of Christ, a person cannot be saved out of the church.

A fellow says that a "sense of humor" is what makes you laugh at something that would make you mad if it happened to you.

If you would make your life powerful, make a combination of time and patience.

What To Expect . . .

When You Visit a Church of Christ



YOU CAN EXPECT to find a group of Christians assembled to worship God through Jesus Christ His Son. This worship consists of studying the Holy Scriptures, praying, singing, observing the Lord's Supper, and contributing of our means. These Christians worship as Christ directed the first century disciples (John 4:24; 2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Timothy 2:8; Ephesians 5:19; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2).

You can expect these churches to have a wholesome respect for the inspired Word of God, the *sole* and *complete authority* in religion today. "If any man speak let him speak as the oracles of God" (1 Peter 4:11). "Let us all walk by the same rule" (Philippians 3:16). Since churches of Christ accept the Word of God as an *all sufficient rule of faith and practice* you can expect them to *reject all human creeds* (Galatians 1:8-9; Revelation 22:18-19).

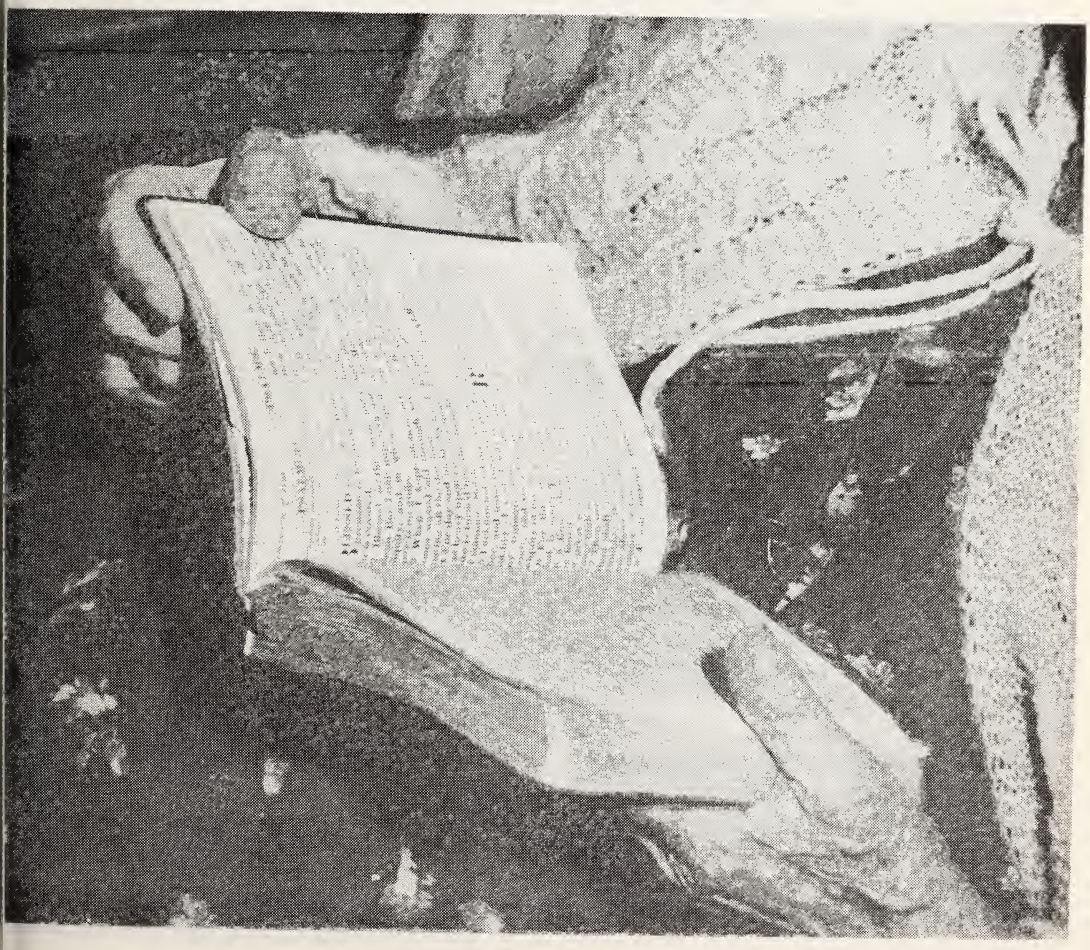
Since Jesus declared, "Upon this rock I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18), churches of Christ are identified as belonging to Him (Romans 16:16). In these churches you will hear everyone entreated to *obey* the *Lord's commands*, namely: BELIEVE in Christ (John 8:24), REPENT (Luke 13:3), CONFESS Christ (Matthew 10:32), and be BAPTIZED into Christ (Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38) in order to become a Christian, a member of the Lord's church. After becoming a Christian these disciples are then urged to *continue faithfully* in worshiping and serving the Lord as the New Testament directs.

You may expect to hear gospel preachers pleading for all who would follow Christ to return to the original pattern of Christianity as revealed in the New Testament. It is their conviction that since the Word of God is the seed of the Kingdom (Luke 8:11), if it ALONE is planted in the hearts of men it will produce the same fruit today as it did in the first century! This product will be New Testament Christianity.

Churches of Christ wish to commend to all people everywhere this basic approach to serving God. It is the conviction of these Christians that this is the only real answer to Christian UNITY and FELLOWSHIP in CHRIST! (Ephesians 4:5; 1 Corinthians 1:10).

Carolina

Messenger of Truth



The aged women likewise... that they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children.-Tit. 2:3,4.

AUGUST 1961

NEW WORK UNDERWAY

Darrell E. Beard
Aberdeen, N. C.

Sunday, June 4th saw a new congregation of the Lord's church meet in Sanford, N. C. This new congregation meets in the American Legion building on Park Drive at 10:00 A. M. for Bible study and communion service. Membership consists of five men and three women with two or three non-members and seven children in regular attendance.

Thirteen brethren from the Lehman Avenue church in Bowling Green, Kentucky support a weekly radio program over a Sanford radio station (WEYE) each Saturday morning from 11:30 to 11:45. The two most crucial needs of this congregation are 1) a full-time evangelist with support and 2) a meeting house.

Sanford is an especially promising field. With the nearest churches of Christ some 30 or more miles distant, this town of 12, 200 souls provides a great challenge to one willing to move here or a congregation able to provide support. Located in the heart of North Carolina, Sanford is a growing industrial town noted especially for its production of brick and tile (40 per cent of total production in N. C. and 12 per cent of all produced in the United States). Sanford is served by U. S. Highways 1, 15, 501, 421, N. C. Highway 87 and five railroads.

Already the congregation is seeking a lot in a favorable part of the town on which to build a suitable meeting house. Anyone interested in helping this deserving infant congregation should contact: Church of Christ, P. O. Box 642, Sanford, N. C.

NEWS EDITOR RESIGNS

There never seems to be an appropriate time to lose a man of Ed Davis' interest and ability but we accept his resignation upon the reasons he has given. He is profitably engaged in worthwhile duties which he enjoys and which he believes is the best for him and his family. These duties are ones which cannot be delegated. No one can go to graduate school for you; no one can work your job for you and no one can preach for you. We wish him the very best in his work.

We wish to sincerely express our appreciation to Bro. Davis for his work as news editor. He has served from the beginning of the Messenger, through months which have not been easy for us. Not only has he edited the material but he has typed the

(see page 3)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

Vol. III August 1961 No. 8

Editorial and publication staff:
Burl Curtis, Editor
Ray Taylor, Publisher
Edward Davis, News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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NEWS EDITOR (cont'd)

copy. This he did willingly to assure the continuation of the paper.

What about the future? We hope, with confidence, that this vacancy will be filled by some interested and capable person in the Carolinas. It has been suggested that two news editors, co-editors, be selected, one for North Carolina and one for South Carolina. We would welcome any suggestions which you might have. In the meantime you may send "news" to: Carolina Messenger, P. O. Box 5423, Sta. B, Greenville, S. C. If any news is sent to Bro. Davis, he will be happy to forward it to us.

CORRECTION NEEDED

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

A correction is needed badly in an attitude which some hold about preachers in the Carolinas. I do not know how prevalent it is, for attitudes are hard to determine, but I am convinced that I have seen it. The attitude is this: some think that preachers preach and work in the Carolinas and other similar mission fields, because they can't do "better." They think he is preaching for the small, struggling congregation because he has had no invitation to work with the larger churches. Some even go so far as to say that our more capable and experienced preachers ought to go where the salary, allowances, fellowship, and opportunities for their children are greater.

I have no desire to judge any one, whether they go or stay in the Carolinas, but I do want to lift up my voice against those who feel that we are here because "we have not been invited to preach for the larger churches." Undoubtedly, there are many in these two states who are capable of working well with the larger congregations and many have received invitations to do so. Perhaps there are some who have used the Carolinas for a "training ground" on their way to the larger church, but, as far as merit in the sight of God, we can see little difference between this preacher and the one who now labors with the large congregation but who does not have the faith and courage to start out with a "handfull." He's too scared to move to a congregation with just a few members.

Will you help correct this unwholesome, incorrect attitude with word and action?

A SPECIAL KIND OF OFFER

For the next two months we will accept two subscriptions to the Carolina Messenger of Truth for the price of one provided the following requirements are met:

First, you must submit one subscription at the regular price of $2.00 per year.

The second subscription is FREE provided it goes to a person who is not a member of the church.

In other words, send in your own subscription or one paid subscription and at the same time submit a name and address of some one whom you would like to receive the Messenger for one year FREE. This offer expires October 1, 1961.

This opportunity is given to encourage you to send the paper to those who have not obeyed the gospel.

THE BIBLE TEACHES

1. The importance of faith.
   a. must have faith to please God-Heb. 11:6
   b. we walk by faith-II Cor. 5:7
   c. faith comes through God's word-Rom. 10:17; John 20:30, 31

2. That the Bible is sufficient.
   a. we are to speak where it speaks-I Peter 4:11
   b. it furnishes us to every good work-II Tim. 3:16, 17; James 1:25

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IMPROVEMENT of BIBLE TEACHING

Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.
Goldsboro, N. C.

In the final analysis, unless we maintain a high level of efficiency and effectiveness in the actual process of Bible teaching itself, talk of "improving the Bible school" is meaningless. Furniture, facilities, promotion, money for materials, goals and visuals do not themselves teach anyone or anything. They make invaluable contributions, but they are not teaching and are no substitute therefor.

Teaching is the communication of life. It is the process by which the teacher leads the learner to become a fullgrown man in Christ, to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. If teaching does not do this, it is not teaching. Where there is no learning, there is no teaching, for teaching is a two part process. Teaching causes something to happen in the learner's life; if something does not happen, something is wrong.

Know the Pupils

The teacher must both love and know those he seeks to teach. Merely to love to teach is not enough--if the teacher does not love the souls of his students, they should not be intrusted to his stewardship. And if he is not willing to learn his subject--his pupils--to study and know them, then his efforts to communicate life to them will be empty of success. Furthermore, the teacher must know and love each pupil as an individual, graced with all the dignity which can possess one who is made in the image of God.

Classroom Evangelist

To his class and to each pupil, every Christian teacher is an evangelist, witnessing and winning by word and deed. His ultimate goal is to bring each student to Christ in the fullest sense. His Bible classroom must be both his pulpit and his counseling room where boys and girls, one by one, are led to make right decisions for time and for eternity. Unless the teacher has this vision of teaching, his view is impaired. Unless the teacher knows and loves each individual and has this aim for each student, his ministry is destined to stunted results.

Knowing and understanding individuals is easier when the group is understood--but there is a difference. When classes have been properly divided, as far as possible, on the basis of age group characteristics, needs, differences and interests, Bible teaching is more effective, its results are more meaningful. Notice some of the chief characteristics of various ages listed below.

Group Characteristics

INFANCY, ages 0-3. Why not more emphasis on this group, more classes for them? Lynch said, "If you train your children carefully until they are seven years old, they are already three-quarters educated." "More attention to the high chair: less need for the electric chair." This age is physically active--"actors"--mentally, discoverers, morally, imitators. Can and must be trained; to wait to begin later is to wait too late. Neglect them, neglect their souls and often souls of parents who can be reached through them.

BEGINNERS, ages 4, 5. Playful group, deeply curious, believers.

PRIMARY, ages 6-8; grades 1, 2, 3. Physically hustlers; becoming more social minded and play is more meaningful; more observant; more discriminating, choosing right and wrong. Love stories; mouldable yeild to teacher's winning personality.

JUNIORS, ages 9-11; grades 4, 5, 6. Reading age; receptive, good memorizers, curious, imitative, hero worshipers, investigative, dislike of opposite sex.

INTERMEDIATES, ages 12-14; grades 7, 8, 9. Rapid body changes beginning; ideals and pursuits deepening. Critical, questioning, want proof, evidence. More social. Conversion age--large numbers

(see page 5)

IMPROVEMENT (cont'd)

reached during this period, must not be overlooked.

SENIORS, YOUNG PEOPLE, ages 15-25; grades 10, 11, 12 and up. Age of achievement, power. Becoming independent. More social, friendships formed, mating instincts more prominent. Spiritually become unstable, susceptible to doubts and worldliness.

Study the age characteristics, their needs, their interests. Use them to appeal to them, to meet their needs, felt or unfelt.

Teacher Preparation

Let the teacher prepare with these characteristics in mind. If the group (or a pupil) has a "felt need, " meet it; if unfelt, make him realize the need, then meet it with the teaching process.

There is, of course, general and specific preparation. General preparation embraces all that the teacher is or becomes, all he knows or learns, observes, reads, absorbs, which contributes to his teaching. His knowledge of history, the sciences, sociology, psychology, his knowledge of the Bible--these are a part of the teacher's general preparation.

Specific preparation deals with a particular lesson, preparing to teach this specific lesson to this specific class. Much specific preparation is aimless because the teacher simply has no aim or aims in mind as he prepares or as he teaches. Every lesson should be planned around specific aims, or a specific aim. It is good to write these aims down on paper.

General aims in Christian teaching include bringing the pupil to Christ, helping the students develop Christlike personalities and characters, putting the students to work for Christ, the general impartation of facts.

There are at least four aims, more specific in nature, which the Bible teacher will do well to observe:

INFORMATION -- "What do I want the pupil to know?" Facts for the mind.

INSPIRATION -- "How do I want the pupil to feel?"

DEDICATION -- "What do I want the pupil to decide?" The will must be activated.

CONSECRATION -- "What do I want the pupil to become?" Development of Christian personality and character.

Let us know that Bible teaching CAN be improved; then work to improve it.

(This is the last of four articles on the Bible School. Our thanks goes to Ray Fullerton for them. Keep them and read them often.)

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

Every boy and girl in the Carolinas deserves to go to Carolina Bible Camp.

But there are a number of worthy young people who without some assistance are unable to go. These deserving boys and girls are from both Christian and non-Christian homes.

To enable deserving young people to attend Camp in 1961 who could not otherwise do so, the Board of Directors of Carolina Bible Camp created the Marvin Chavis Scholarship Fund. A committee was appointed to select four worthy recepients of these scholarships. The committee will make its selections on the basis of recommendations submitted by Christians in the Carolinas.

Every youngster who could not otherwise attend Camp deserves to have his name submitted to the committee.

Write for official recommendation form to Ray D. Fullerton, Jr., Box 116, Goldsboro, N. C.

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

--PROJECTOR FOR SALE -

This is an S. V. E. Schoolmaster. It is like new. The case, projector and film new cost $125. I will take $75--a saving of $50. I want to sell it for I have two and do not need it. I guarantee it to look and operate like a new one. It also has a new projector bulb. Contact Barney Cargile, Jr., Box 493, Anderson, S. C.

TELLING THE TRUTH - - - - - - - - - IN A TRUTHFUL WAY.

Olan Hicks
High Point, N. C.

Before the election many leaders and teachers, both civic and religious, attempted to warn the American people concerning certain principles contained in Roman Catholic dogma which are contrary to our constitutional liberties, principles which many times cause the hierarchy to be found trying to dispell the constitution. We pointed out that a member of that church, as President of this country, would thus be faced with frequent conflict between the constitution he's sworn to uphold and his religious superiors whom he has also sworn to uphold. We felt that the people had the right to be aware of this disharmony between the two loyalties Mr. Kennedy proposed to serve concurrently. Not that it should nullify his right to run for the office, but simply that it was a matter the people should be allowed to consider and on which they had a right to be informed.

For these efforts we were labeled "bigots" and "hatemongers," etc. Most of those who disagreed with us seemed to cultivate intolerance toward our right to say it, generally regarding us with the bitterest of contempt. We were accused of the most disgraceful motives. Editors, commentators, and reporters generally did not give us a fair hearing. We were judged and condemned without examination and the case was "closed." We were told to "sit down and hush."

Now, a few months later, the battle we spoke of rages openly. The hierarchy vs. the constitution and Mr. Kennedy in the middle. The first major battle, as expected, has come in the matter of public support for parochial schools. Our President finds his church on one side of the battle and his constitution on the other. During the campaign Mr. Kennedy promised over and over again to defend the constitution on this particular point. It can be said to his credit that he is doing just that. However to report this as conclusive proof that America need not be wary of a Roman Catholic President is not quite telling the truth in a truthful way. This partisan view of the matter would have us overlook the fact that the "pressures" we warned of are now being brought to bear. Ignore the fact that the conflict has developed as predicted, and over emphasize the fact that Mr. Kennedy has not yielded in the first round of conflict. Of course he hasn't. This stand was a campaign promise made just a few months ago. It would be political suicide to fail here. But what of future conflicts, those which we were forbidden to discuss during the campaign? This struggle will have to be repeated again and again as long as the President remains both a Roman Catholic and a U. S. President. Everytime the hierarchy attempts to move on government, and this is daily, America must hold its breath till it sees whether the President will choose to uphold the constitution in this particular case or his religious superiors. He has sworn allegiance to both. The conflict does exist.

We did not claim to be able to predict accurately how much Mr. Kennedy would persevere against these pressures. Our case was simply against the wisdom of resting the country's future on such a gamble, and to point out that the gamble does exist. We wanted the people to know the gamble being proposed before accepting it. Many people voted for Mr. Kennedy without a full knowledge of the facts of this risk. They were told that it didn't exist. It was just a figment in the minds of some spooky "hatemonger" and unworthy of examination.

We do not feel that partisan, deceptive reporting is ever wise. It may appear to be expedient momentarily to disguise the truth in the interest of the President's personal prestige as well as that of the country. However, honesty is still the

 (see page 7)

My Thanks

TELLING THE TRUTH (cont'd)

best policy. A nation that must build upon a foundation of perversions will soon find its foundation very shaky. If we had all been willing to face facts openly and honestly during the campaign this need for "cover up" reporting would never have arisen. The facts are now beyond question. Mr. Kennedy IS tied religiously to an organization he must fight politically if he would honor the constitution. Protestant candidates are not thus entangled.

It was not malicious nor unkind to cite these conditions during the campaign for they are now known to be the truth. I'm sure it would benefit both our feelings and the consciences of our assailants to hear them acknowledge the truthfulness of this.

A VOICE

"Tomorrow," he faithfully promised
"Tomorrow for revival I'll pray;
Tomorrow, I'll plead as I ought to,
I'm busy, too busy today!
Tomorrow, I will pray in my closet,
Tomorrow, I will humbly bow."
Yet, even a "Voice" kept whispering,
"But the church is **Languishing Now!"**

Tomorrow, Tomorrow, Tomorrow —
The delay 'ere repeated went on!
Tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow, —
Till the years and the "Voice" were gone?
Till the church its God had forgotten?
Till the land was covered with Sin?
Till millions had hopelessly perished,
And eternity was ushered in?

O Member of the body of Christ,
O ye church of the living God,
O teachers and leaders and preachers,
O saints where our fathers trod;
The "Voice" still insistently whispers;
Answer not "Tomorrow I'll pray."
The "Voice" is one of authority;
The church needs reviving today!

Lord, I thank Thee not for pride
And wealth, the haughty look,
The high strung air that choaks
The poor and robs the weak for
Selfish gain to heap again on finery,
To heap of cold, hard piles of millions.

I thank Thee not for threat of war,
A greed for power, unearned fame,
That makes the blood flow red
And deep from wounded boys and in
Bleeding hearts of wives and mothers
To fill the pockets of greed.

I thank Thee not for vice and crime
Which consumes the soul, and melts
The land poured out in lust,
Passion stirred, to fill the desire
Of wantonness, strife, and hatred
Stolen from the rights of others.

Lord, I thank Thee most for the right
To serve, just a humble place,
Where I give cheer through a kindly
Word, a crust of bread, an encouraging
Smile, or a silent prayer
From a sympathizing tear for others.

I thank Thee most for the friends I have,
For a mutual smile, for the warmth inside
To know that another, a creature
Of Thine, feels me worth a place
Deep in his heart — yes, the heart
Of a neighbor or a mother or dad.

I thank Thee most for a peace of soul
Instilled by Thy love through the beauty
Of nature and the harmony of love,
Unpainted scenes on the heart,
Wrought by security and hope
From Thy hand with its infinite care.

—Owen D. Olbricht.

News

SENECA, S. C.
B. E. Davis, Evangelist

With this issue, I most regretfully announce my resignation as News Editor of the Carolina Messenger of Truth. This decision was reached only after much thought and deliberation, and comes now because I sincerely believe it will be best.

Many of you know that, during the past several months, I have been attempting to do a great many things (perhaps too many things) at once. Besides my first obligation as evangelist with the Seneca congregation, I am also employed as Experiment Station Editor with Clemson College. In addition to this, I am working toward a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology. It is obvious, I believe, that my time is exceedingly limited.

Because I do not wish to be a "bottle-neck" in the work the Messenger is doing, and because I can see little hope of any immediate improvement in my situation, I feel it will be best for someone with more time to assume the duties of News Editor.

Let me state unequivocally that I heartily endorse the policies and practices of the editorial and publications staff of this journal, and it is with extreme regret that I take this action. As a matter of fact, it is because of my sincere desire to see this work grow and succeed that I step aside.

My relationships with everyone connected with the Messenger have been completely cordial, and I count Burl Curtis and his lovely wife, Evelyn, as among my dearest friends.

I shall continue to subscribe to, and support in every possible way, this publication, and work heartily to insure its welfare and prosperity. As a final word of encouragement, let me urge each of you to continue to contribute your news articles and announcements to my successor at this desk. I know--better than anyone--how much your cooperation in this matter means. Just remember--the Messenger is designed to serve you, as workers in this growing-but-yet-weak mission field. Stand by it, support it, and you will never regret it. This is my firm conviction.
(See editorial on page two for comments).

ALBEMARLE, N. C.
Frank R. Milton, Reporting

I hope this will find all going well with you and the brethren there. I am sorry that I have not been able to be in touch with the Carolina Messenger as I would like to in recent months. We have been so very busy with a building program here. The Lord willing we will have a building which will be a credit to Albemarle in the near future. It will seat about 200, now, with over-flow class rooms on each side to accommodate an additional one hundred. The building is being constructed by Paden Construction Co. of Cleburne, Texas. The cost is $23,000.00 complete. It will be air conditioned, sound proof and dust proof. The steeple and baptistry is made of fiber glass. It is located on highway 52 South at Ross drive. This section is a new neighborhood and we believe we have a wonderful opportunity here. We plan the opening service on August 6th. at 3:00 P. M. All the churches are invited to attend. There will be several speakers on the program and open house to follow. Also, we are to have a gospel meeting to begin on August 13th with Bro. Riley Moore of Columbia, Tennessee doing the preaching. About 40 people from that congregation will be coming for this meeting, including the elders, song leader, and several of the young people.

DURHAM, N. C.
Gordon Teffeteller, Reporting

On Sunday afternoon my family attended the 6:00 PM service at Chapel Hill and were recipients of a good lesson on "The Beatitudes," delivered by Charles Hess. Some twenty were in attendance. The Chapel Hill church is negotiating for a lot opposite the shopping center east of the city. This is a good step forward. On Sunday, July 2, brother John Harris was in Chapel Hill to preach with the view of full-time work there.

GEORGETOWN, S. C.
Johnny C. Sewell, Reporting

During June 5-9 I was in attendance at the annual school for Bible Camp Leaders, conducted at Camp Wyldewood in Searcy, Ark.

From June 25-July 2 I preached in a series of Gospel Meetings with the Little Rock church in Hickman County, Tennessee. In this meeting the Lord gave increase in the amount of fourteen baptisms and three restorations.

We are preparing for our V. B. S. here in Georgetown July 24-28. In addition to the rooms in the meeting house, we have the use of five rooms in the neighboring elementary school.

A number of us recognize the need for more books for losson preparation. We may find that our funds are not sufficient to purchase the books we'd like and that the local libraries, especially in small towns, do not have the books desired. It has recently come to my attention that the Kessler Circulating Library, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, Nashville 5, Tennessee was established to meet this need. They have available 50,000 volumes in the Joint University Library plus 8,000 additional volumes. There is no charge for a library card and book loans are made for three weeks and may be renewed for an additional three weeks. All you do is pay the return postage.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warners Chapel congregation
W. J. Perkins, Reporting

June here was especially wonderful. With more advertizing and more organized visitation work, we overcame the summer slump, increased the attendance, and saw 10 obey the Lord's invitation, including a Moravian and a Methodist. During preparation for our gospel meeting, 5 were baptized and one restored. Then we enjoyed one of the best attended meetings ever with Bro. T. A. Isaacs doing the preaching. Two were baptized and one restored during the meeting. Sunday we had a well-attended Gospel Singing and picnic dinner under the new pavillion built by some individual members on the residential property across from the chapel. On July 17th our 5 day V. B. S. begins.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Kenneth Warmbrod, Reporting

We invite all Carolina Christians to attend our Gospel Meeting which is to be conducted by Brother Fullerton of Goldsboro on October 1-8. During the months of June and July Brother Shelton conducted two meetings in Tennessee which resulted in a total of five baptisms and five restorations. Brothers E. M. Chandler, Alton Holland, Jack Scruggs, Jack Green, Fred Taylor, Buddy Shepherd, Grover Warmbrod and Wayne Robinson were installed as deacons on June 18.

VALDESE, N. C.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

On Sunday night, July 16th, all-time attendance records were broken when we counted 110 present for the evening service. It was the last night of the Gospel meeting in which Brother T. A. Isaacs of Charlotte, Plaza congregation, preached the Gospel in a forceful way. Considering the fact that we only have 28 members, this 110 attendance is very good. We are thankful to the neighboring congregations who helped make this number possible. Many non-members from this community were visitors.

The average attendance for the 10 services of the meeting was 65. The average attendance for the 5 day Bible school was 60.

Much interest was shown in our Vacation Bible School by the children in the community who attend other religious organizations, and many of whom came every day. We were assisted in this school by Bro. and Sis. Clay Henderson of Hickory and Bro. & Sis. T. A. Isaacs of Charlotte who taught classes and to whom we are very grateful.

VALDESE (cont'd)

Brother Isaacs brought us very truthful, forceful and stirring messages from the Bible and many Valdese visitors heard him. His sermons provoked thought in many hearts and while there was no outward manifestation of results of his preaching, we know that lasting good has been done and we leave the increase in God's hands.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Reporting

Bro. Milton Parker from Trenton, Ga., formerly of Duncan, S. C., will be with us in a meeting July 31-August 4. Our homecoming will be Sunday August 6 with dinner on the grounds. I have agreed to stay on here at least through December. Our attendance and contribution has been good lately. Pray for us.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad St. congregation
Harold Scott, Reporting

A regular preacher will begin work in Taylorsville, N. C. the first of September supported in part by this congregation and the Abilene congregation in Statesville. Bro. Tony Forrest, a native of Mocksville, N. C., will finish at David Lipscomb College in August and he and his wife will then move to Taylorsville to work.

Bro. J. Ferris Baird came this month to the Abilene congregation here to work with them as an evangelist. We are looking forward to working with both these brethren as they begin work in this area. Broad St. has had the best July in history with an average of near 200 in attendance on Sunday morning.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C.
August C. Ruff, Reporting

There were two baptisms July 16, which make a total of sixteen since the first of November of '60. We have had nineteen restorations since that time also. The Lord willing, our fall meeting will begin August 28, with Bro. Paul Vining, from Huntsville, Alabama, doing the preaching. On Friday, September 1, there will be a preachers meeting for all those who are within driving distance. We will meet at the church building and go to one of the local resturants for lunch around 12:30. The evening will be spent in visitation among the preachers (and their wives). Around five o'clock we will go to the Ruff's for a snack and then to the meeting at 7:30. We will be looking forward to seeing several preachers and their wives at this meeting. We feel that these get-togethers are important in finding out how the work of the Lord is progressing in the Carolinas.

ANDERSON, S. C.
Barney Cargile, Reporting

This has been the busiest summer of my life. First the debate, then a gospel meeting followed that and then the following week I had a gospel meeting at Easley, S. C.

I would like to make a few statements about the debate. Mr. Martin, the Baptist, made these two statements the last evening "One thing I have learned from this debate and that is that I am going to be a more careful student of the Bible from now on." He also said, "God is my witness, I will never debate a Campbellite again as long as I live and if I should I hope my brethren will chase me out of town." I have been told that this is the first debate with a "Convention Baptist" in perhaps 50 years.

(Editor's note: We do not accept the name Campbellite. We desire to be known as Christians. Acts 11:26)

WILLARD CONCHIN TO MOCKSVILLE

Bro. Willard Conchin and his fine family have moved to Mocksville, N. C. and are working with the N. Main St. congregation. He was instrumental in the growth of the congregation in Jonesboro, Tennessee where he patiently worked for several years.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

We had 6 responses to the invitation in June, 3 baptisms and 3 restorations. Our present membership is 40. We have recently had 3 of our members to move away. We are preparing for our Vacation Bible School. We hope to have an attendance of about 75. Bro. Harry Postlethwait has agreed to teach the adult class during the school.

DUNCAN, S. C.
Rudy Senn, Reporting

There will be a 4 day meeting at Duncan, S. C., August 6-9. Bro. Milton Parker, Trenton, Georgia, will be the speaker. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. There will also be a singing at Duncan Sunday afternoon, August 6, at 3:00 PM. You are especially invited to attend the singing and meeting.

ATTENTION: EVERY GOSPEL PREACHER

One of the most outstanding services ever offered the 20TH CENTURY CHRISTIAN has come from the generous hand of Dr. and Mrs. J. Y. Waldrum. Dr. Waldrum, a retired pharmacist, a former operator of a chain of drug stores, an octogenarian, and a deacon in the Lord's church is intensely interested in new homes that are being formed in America.

As a consequence he offers to any gospel preacher this service. He will send a year's free subscription to the 20TH CENTURY CHRISTIAN and POWER FOR TODAY to the home of every newly wed provided two stipulations are met:

First, you must write Jim Bill McInteer, 3534 West End Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee, giving name and address of the couple to receive the magazine. Secondly, you as the preacher must maintain an interest in the couple, leading them by virtue of visitation and encouragement in every possible spiritual development. Dr. and Mrs. Waldrum would like the gift they are making to compliment the service the preachers are rendering.

They are ready to begin this magnificent gift immediately. If there are weddings you have had in recent days, please notify now Jim Bill McInteer of the name and the address of the couple. Isn't this a wonderful offer? Wouldn't it be terrible if something so generous were to pass without your full acceptation of it? Avail yourself of it immediately. Perhaps you would like to express personal appreciation to the Waldrums for their gift-write them at 218 Haverford Drive, Nashville, Tennessee.

THE BIBLE TEACHES (cont'd)

3. The New Testament church.
   a. established on the day of Pentecost -Dan. 2:44; Acts 2
   b. Christ the owner-Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28

4. Bible names.
   a. for the church-Rom. 16:16; I Tim. 3:15
   b. for members-Acts 11:26; I Pet. 4:16

5. The gospel as God's power to save. Rom. 1:16; I Cor. 15:1-4

6. To obey the gospel by.
   a. hearing-John 6:44, 45; Rom. 10:17
   b. believing-John 8:24; Heb. 11:6
   c. repenting-Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
   d. confessing-Matt. 10:32
   e. being baptized-Acts 2:38

7. To worship God.
   a. in spirit-John 4:24
   b. in truth-John 4:24

8. To worship in truth.
   a. sing-Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16
   b. pray-Acts 2:42
   c. teach-Mark 16:15
   d. give-I Cor. 16:1, 2
   e. observe-Luke 22:19; Acts 20:7



IS IT POSSIBLE...

first century Christianity in the *twentieth* century?

People sin now as they did in the first century: "*For all have sinned . . .*" *Romans 3:23.* People need salvation now as they did in the first century: "*. . . Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Acts 2:40.* The gospel of Christ saves men now as it did in the first century: " *. . . It is the power of God unto salvation . . .*" *Romans 1:16.*

Therefore, since God is the same, obedience to the gospel today will make saved people of us as it did then, and it is true that first century Christianity is not only possible, but actually exists today when people follow the New Testament.

The churches of Christ urge a return to original Christianity. We work for religious unity. We stress the plan of salvation originally delivered by Christ and His apostles. There is only one way these desirable spiritual goals can be realized . . . a complete return to the teaching of the Scripture. On this basis alone can there truly be the "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" of first century Christianity. You can be just a Christian! Why not investigate the churches of Christ?

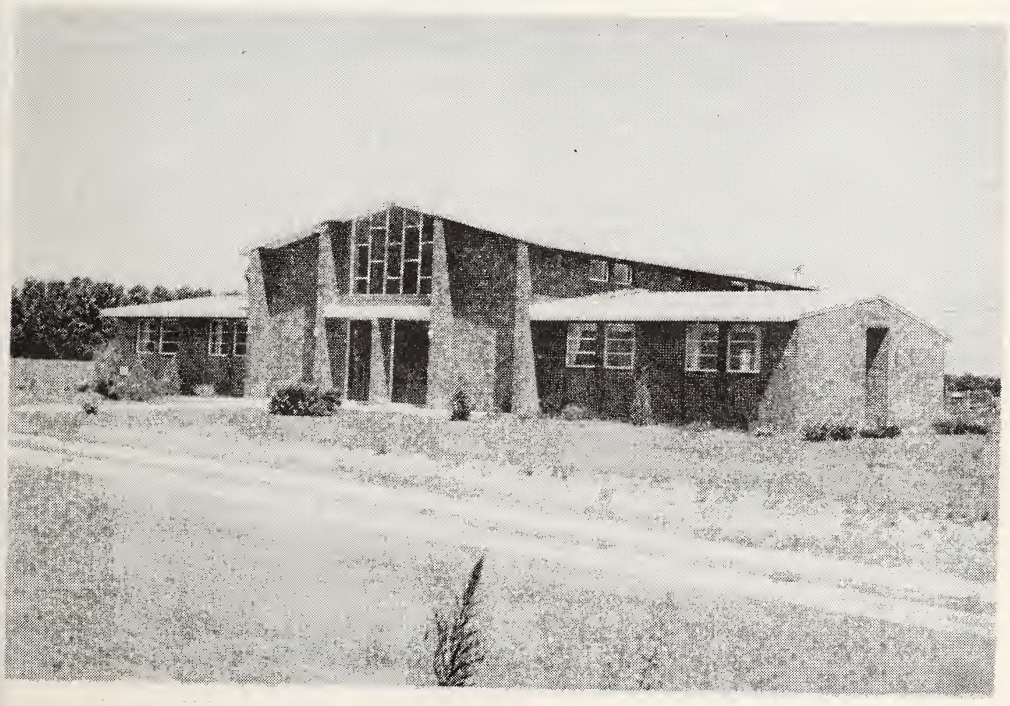


...Attend the services of the

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Carolina

Messenger of Truth



NEW BUILDING, KINSTON, N. C.

SEPTEMBER 1961

NORTH CAROLINA ADDS A NEW CONGREGATION

By September 1, 1961, a new congregation of the Lord's church is expected to have begun and embarked upon a concentrated program of work in east North Carolina. In the college town of Greenville, North Carolina (21,000) two families of Christians are now temporarily located; the nearest New Testament church meets some thirty miles away. From Greenville to the sea, almost one hundred miles east, one small congregation is known to be meeting, but no concentrated effort is now being made to reach this vast field "white unto harvest." The Highland View Church of Christ, Oak Ridge, Tennessee is sending C. E. Mannon, of Christiansburg, Virginia to preach the gospel and establish a permanent work in this area too long neglected. With his wife, Betty, and two sons, Lester 9, and Larry 6, Brother Mannon will begin in Greenville around September 1. The West Riverside church in McMinnville, Tennessee has given great encouragement to this work by promising support for a daily radio program from the beginning. Of this new work, Brother Mannon writes: "It is our hope and fervent prayer that our decision to move to Greenville in the planting of a congregation will supply a great need which a sense of duty will not allow us to ignore. Love for Christ and sympathy for a lost world is sure to go unexpressed unless we utilize our opportunities and abilities to do what we can 'while it is day.' Our difficulties will be great, but our rewards greater. We accept this challenge in the faith that with God all things are possible and earnestly solicit the prayers and encouragement of saints in every place."

EDITORIAL BRINGS COMMENT

I'm sorry to learn that some think the preachers in this area are not qualified for the larger congregations or have not had any invitations to work with them. I have been a member of the church for 27 years and have had the privilege of meeting a number of gospel preachers in other states and working with them. I know we now have and in the past have had as many good, honest, sincere and qualified men in the piedmont section of South Carolina as any other state. To my knowledge many have had invitations for larger congregations but had a desire to work where they were needed most. To correct one misconception, the early church sent Paul and the other apostles out to establish congregations, but the larger congregations do not have that idea or at least they do not practice it in their work.

by Paul Rodgers, Duncan, S. C.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Ray Taylor, Publisher
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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SACRIFICIAL LIVING

J. B. Whitaker
Rockingham, N. C.

"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." II Cor. 8:9.

Not long ago, in reading a book of sermons by J. W. McGarvey, I ran across a wonderful statement relative to the faith of Abraham. It impressed me because I had never really thought of the implications of the passage.

In commenting on Hebrews 11:9 which refers to Abraham's faith leading him to dwell in tents with Isaac and Jacob, McGarvey says:

Another example is given in the fact that Abraham, by faith, lived in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promises, because he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. The Sodomites had built a city. Melchizedek, the high priest of God, was living, close by, in the city of Salem. The Shechemites and others round about, had cities; and his friends, the Hittites, were living in the city of Hebron. He was a man of great wealth, and he could have built a palace in which to live, but he chose to live in a tent all his life. He was seventy-five years old when he left his native land, and one hundred and seventy-five when he died; and through a round hundred years, he lived in a tent, by faith, because yonder was the city he was looking for, that had foundations sure enough, whose builder and maker was God, and he was so well pleased and satisfied with that, that he did not want anything better than a tent to live in here on earth. Sometimes I have thought that this was a greater evidence of Abraham's faith than offering Isaac on the altar. It was a long strain, that one hundred years living in a tent and looking for that distant city. Conviction as to that unseen city which God had built; confident expectation that after a long, weary journey, his life over, he would live in it with his children after him--this was his faith. How clearly and beautifully then, the examples that the apostle gives, come up to and fill out every point in his definition, conviction as to things not seen, confidence as to things hoped for.

There isn't anything that is a better index to our character than the attitude we have toward and what we do with the material things God puts in our hands.

The above paragraph was interesting to me because I have read articles in gospel papers in the past two or three years which seem to show that we are drifting away from what the Scriptures teach with reference to sacrificial living. These articles were written from the preacher's point of view and gave reasons why preachers were going into secular work of different types rather than preaching the Word. As I have read them, I have come to believe, as someone has said, that even we as preachers sometimes by our actions show that we are more interested in "present" security. Are we coming to the place as God's people that we are unwilling to make sacrifices in order to do God's Work?

David said once: "Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing." II Sam. 24:24. We can preach long and loud about the "bargain counter" variety of religion that is offered America today. We have no patience whatever with the "church of your choice" concept of religion because we know that people reject what they do not like. But as we do some soul-searching ourselves--have we not also come to partake of the same spirit? Do we want a religion of convenience--one that doesn't cost anything--one that has a crown but not a cross?

(see page 4)

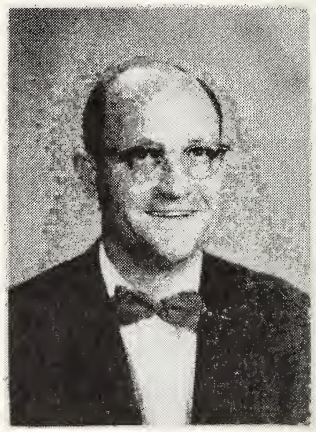
SACRIFICIAL LIVING (cont'd)

It is good for us to compare the material and creature comforts we enjoy in our homes each day with the statements of Paul in writing to the Philippians as in chapter four. Think often of the words of the Lord in Matt. 8:20 and again in Luke 12:15. These Scriptures should aid us greatly in formulating our attitudes towards things material.

Recently I read a very graphic description of our position as Americans in this world in which we live. Someone reduced proportionately all the people of the world into a theoretical town of 1,000 people. There would be in such a city 60 Americans. The remainder of the world would be represented by 940 persons. The 60 Americans would have half the income of the entire town. Thus, from such representations we can see our position in the world. We see also the great danger that we as the people of God might get the emphasis in the wrong place. Have we lived in the "lap of luxury" so long that we are unwilling to live sacrificially? I believe that a great proportion of most every congregation--even in areas such as the Carolinas--haven't even begun to realize and know what it is really to live sacrificially. Give up some of the luxuries you enjoy and devote that to the Work of God. You'll be blessed by so doing.

Abraham's sacrificial living should inspire us. His beautiful wife, no doubt, was taxed at times as she saw what others were enjoying. (They were not strangers even at king's courts, you know--Gen. 20) She had desires like our women folk today--a home with nice furnishings and all the trimmings. Peter assures us in I Peter 3:6, however, that Sarah, even under trying circumstances, was a true helper for Abraham. The devotion and conviction of her godly husband inspired her with reverence for his leadership of the whole family.

True, in every age preachers and their wives, elders and their wives, yea, and "all that will live godly" will be called upon to make sacrifices. Is this not the very heart of the gospel? (Jno. 3:16) May God help us always to be able to see the ultimate rather than the immediate as did our Lord (Heb. 12:2). May God help us to "make ourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness." (Luke 16:9) Let us restore Christianity in this area--let us live sacrificially!!!



WILLARD CONCHIN

Willard Conchin and his family moved the last of June to Mocksville, N. C. to work with the North Main St. Church of Christ. He has worked for the past nine years at Jonesboro, Tennessee.

While in East Tennessee, Willard and his wife, Vonda, completed their M. A. degrees. Vonda is teaching Math and English in one of the high schools in Davie Co. Willard does not plan to teach but will give his full time to preaching, reading and related duties connected with the N. Main St. congregation. He is also the author of a series of workbooks which he hopes to complete. The Conchins have 5 children.

SPECIAL OFFER

Through October 1, you may obtain two subscriptions to the Carolina Messenger

 (see page 10)

AWAKE Before It's Too LATE

Olan Hicks
High Point, N. C.

When King Belshazzar saw the handwriting on the wall, the Bible says his countenance changed and his thoughts troubled him so that the joints of his loins were loosed, "and his knees smote one against another." Daniel revealed the meaning of the writing, "God hath numbered thy kingdom and finished it," and "thou art weighed in the balances and found wanting." He had given himself over to drunkness, gross disrespect for things sacred, revelling and immorality. "And the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified." (Dan. 5:23-28). Therefore his great kingdom was doomed.

In the early Christian era, Rome, "the eternal city," had amassed the greatest empire the world ever knew. At the pinnacle of her greatness and power no enemy could withstand her. But she fell. And why? The people, and especially their leaders, failed to see the "handwriting on the wall," evidences of decaying within. Rome was not thrown down by greater armies, she just plain rotted and fell off the tree herself. Then her enemies "sacked" her.

In the past two hundred years America has become the greatest Democracy in the world, a power recognized universally as perhaps the world's foremost champion of the cause of freedom. But within the past 50 years, the same internal enemy that crushed mighty Rome, has spread its infection in this country at an ever increasing speed. Edward Gibbon, in his great historical work, "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," lists five reasons for the collapse of this great world power. These are the "handwriting on the wall" for America if we would but open our eyes and see it. These moral infections will also spoil this great country if they are not soon arrested. Compare these five reasons with the condition of America today.

1. "The rapid increase of divorce; the undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis of human society."

In "modern" America the marriage bond is no longer sacred. With but few exceptions, our people change mates like they change their hats. Too few children are reared to adulthood by the parents who bring them into the world. The "average home" of a few years ago is rapidly becoming extinct.

2. "Higher and higher taxes and the spending of public monies for free bread and circuses for the populaces."

It is not news to you that we pay almost half of our wages in taxes of one kind or another. Each year the taxes are increased. A large percentage of it is spent so that "America can have her own way of life,"- her divorces, her high crime rate, her illigitimate children, her alcoholics, dope addicts, etc. Rep. H. R. Gross of Iowa recently said, "Over my objections, the taxpayers of this country are now being raided for 2 million to 3 million dollars each year for entertainment purposes, much of it for liquor, here and abroad." A liquor bar was recently installed in the State Room of the executive mansion for President Kennedy. But a tremendous burden in taxes stems from the cost of handling immoralities among our public. A report from Washington carried by the Winston-Salem Journal July 29 said that 221,000 illigitimate babies were born in this country in 1959. 52 out of every 1,000 babies were born to unwed mothers. And 68% of these were born to girls under 15 years old!

On Monday, July 24, J. Edgar Hoover, FBI Director, released a report that our crime rate is "astounding." He said that in 10 years from 1950 to 1960, our crime rate had increased 98%, while the population increase was only 18%. We now average one serious crime every 15 seconds. A large percentage of these are sex crimes

(see page 6)

AWAKE (cont'd)

and the report said that arrests of juveniles last year was more than double the 1950 figure. Now, these are not the ravings of an anxious grandmother. These are the facts reported by our national news agencies.

3. "The mad craze for pleasure; sports becoming every year more exciting and more brutal."

Our people just cannot be satisfied any more in their craze for entertainment and excitement. An "outing" that a few years ago would have been "the event" of perhaps a whole year, is today just another day to our youngsters. Tomorrow, if there is not another "circus" to entertain them, they'll just go raving mad. And our adults are the same way. More and more our industries are devoting themselves to the manufacture of "toys" for adults. Our sports must get more daring every year. Many are the millionaires made so by inventing something for America to "play with."

4. "The building of gigantic armaments when the real enemy was within; the decadence of the people."

The nose cone, lost after Grissom's recent flight into spece, was worth something over 2 million dollars. That's just one example. Think of the scores of other "million dollar blasts" that fail to even get off the ground. It's difficult to say just what America should do with respect to military armament. But I do know this, we have a far greater threat to our national security in the moral decadence of the people than in the astronauts (or bombs) of Russia. We'd better pay some attention to that, too.

5. "The decay of religion--faith fading into mere form, losing touch with life and becoming impotent to warn and guide the people."

Now, read that line over again very carefully. Right here is a most crucial factor. The church is supposed to help prevent moral decay and safeguard our country's moral character with powerful teaching constantly. But have not the churches of this country become Sunday social clubs? They're not bastions of non-conformity any more. The preacher preaches what his people want to hear. If he doesn't they get someone who will. Religion in this country has decayed until it no longer warns the people of anything nor prepares them for anything, but coddles their self indulgence and excuses their sins and encourages them to "turn aside every man into his own way."

I don't want to be a prophet of doom, but I wonder if we will have to bear the full fruit of our doings before we Christians will wake up to what's happening and pitch in to support higher moral standards. Will America have to become another Babylon, or Sodom & Gomorrah and be destroyed? Why can't we see the "handwriting on the wall"? The 221,000 illigitimate babies were probably born to girls who couldn't see anything wrong with dancing, petting, and such like. Their parents probably didn't either, until it was too late. The astounding number of juvenile criminals are probably boys whose parents wanted them to have "freedom" to roam about town late at night. The million of alcoholics are people who contended, "Oh, a social drink never hurt anybody." And religion is decaying because it has fallen into the hands of a people who use it just as a "past time," secondary to everything else, and a people who have no objection to a loose interpretation of the scriptures.

Modern philosophy says, "Live, let yourself go! Have fun!" The Bible says, "Flee youthful lusts and follow after righteousness." (II Tim. 2:22). And liberalists content that there is no disharmony between the two. But, as Solomon said, "Can a man take fire into his bosom and his clothes not be burned?" (Prov. 6:7) As Paul put it, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (Gal. 6:7).

Belshazzar's knees "smote one against another" at what he saw. I wonder if we would not experience a similar feeling if

 (see page 7)

AWAKE (cont'd)

we could but look ahead a few years to the inevitable end of the road we're now traveling. As another brother has expressed it, "I wonder if a later historian will write of us, 'When a godless materialism swept over the world, the greatest Democracy had grown too decadent to avert its catastrophe. And in its decline, the church had become impotent to warn and guide the people.'"

AND WE STILL COMPLAIN

"By the process of imagination, someone has compressed our world neighborhood of 2 and 1/2 billion people into a community of one thousand people. As a result, this fictional community would emerge about as follows:

--There would be 60 Americans and 940 would represent the remainder of the world.

--The Americans would receive one-half the total income of the entire world community.

--The Americans would be riding in their cars, using 90 per cent of the rubber produced by the impoverished in their neighborhood.

--At our coffee breaks, we would be drinking most of the coffee grown by the less fortunate.

--Practically all the cocoa produced would go into our chocolate cakes, pies, and candy bars.

--The 60 Americans would be well-fed, comfortably housed and thoroughly amused while their 940 neighbors would be hungry, sick, ignorant and crowded 10 to a room.

--The neighbors would look with envy and resentment to the overpacked and expensive food storage facilities.

--More than half would never have heard of Jesus Christ.

--On the other hand, more than half would be hearing about Karl Marx, Lenin and Kruschev.

--Selected.

The Devil's 23rd Psalm

King Alcohol is my shepherd;
I crave and want.
He maketh me to lie down in mudholes,
He leadeth me beside troubled waters,
He damneth my soul.
He turneth my car over for his tastes sake.
Yea, though I ride in the valley of the shadow of hell,
I will hold to the bottle.
For the Devil is with me,
His saloon and his beer joint, they beckon me.
Thou preparest an empty table before me in the presence of my family;
Thou annointeth my head with bruises;
My pocketbook is empty.
Surely evil and misery shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Devil forever.

§ §

BAPTISM IS A BURIAL

1. Jesus "went... out of the water." Matt. 3:16
2. John was baptizing in AEnon because much water was there. John 3:23.
3. Phillip and the eunuch came to the water. Acts 8:36.
4. They both went down into the water. Acts 8:38.
5. We are buried with Christ by baptism. Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

News

GEORGETOWN, S. C.
Johnny C. Sewell, Reporting

During July the church of Christ in Georgetown conducted its annual Vacation Bible School. Attendance-wise, and we believe from the standpoint of the quality of teaching as well, this was the most successful V. B. S. ever conducted by the local congregation. On Monday 205 assembled, on Tuesday the number rose to 234, an increase of one was noted on Wednesday with 235 present, on Thursday the attendance was 245 and on Friday 254 assembled, this being the final day of the V. B. S. The average daily attendance was 235. We were permitted again this year to use the neighboring elementary school and, because of that, had adequate room for this fine number of children.

We have heard of no congregation in either North or South Carolina which had a larger V. B. S. attendance during the 1961 season. We are, therefore, claiming the record and if we do not hear of others that have had larger attendances, we will assume that the attendance record has been achieved by the grace of the Lord by the Georgetown congregation.

During July our hearts were made to rejoice at the conversion of two ladies. In this respect also the future of the church here looks bright.

V. B. S. ATTENDANCE RECORD CLAIMED

In the above report, the record attendance for Vacation Bible School is claimed by the Georgetown congregation. How many were in attendance where you live? Please let us know how many you had. Did any congregation in the Carolinas have more than 254? It would be most interesting to know. Remember, the Georgetown congregation has only about 80 members!

SANFORD, N. C.
Bob Herndon, Reporting

Many thanks to Darrell Beard of the Aberdeen congregation for his fine article in the August issue on the new work underway in Sanford. Our average attendance for the eleven Lord's Days we have met is 9. Average offering: $12.04.

Our most urgent needs are a full time evangelist with support and a meeting house. We have encountered no prejudice here, only confusion as to what the church is. Sanford is large enough with sufficient potential to merit some attention from the brotherhood.

If you are able to help us, or have any suggestions to make or advice to give, please write me at Box 642, Sanford, N. C.

VALDESE, N. C.
Bill G. Smith, Evangelist
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

The Valdese church has lost another family of four, but our loss is Hickory's gain. Brother Ralph Lowtharpe has been transferred in his work nearer Hickory than to Valdese, so he and his wife with two little girls attend the Hickory church now. This leaves us with only 26 members.

Our preacher is one of the counselors at Carolina Bible Camp this week and next. In his absence, Bro. Benny Burns preached at night on August 13th and Bro. M. E. Burns at night on August 20th. Brother Smith returns to preach the morning sermons. Four children from this congregation attended Bible Camp.

The preacher's wife, Kay and their little daughter, Kim, are spending two weeks with Kay's parents in South Carolina while he is at Bible Camp.

A Gospel meeting was held at Lenoir, July 23-29, in which Brother Bill G. Smith and Brother Clay Henderson of Hickory did the preaching. Three were baptized into Christ and one was restored to the faith.

ALBEMARLE, N. C.
Frank R. Milton, Reporting

Our recent meeting, August 13-20, was conducted by Riley Moore, of Columbia, Tennessee. The church meeting at Riverside in Columbia support me in the work

ALBEMARLE (cont'd)

here. They sent their preacher, song leader, and about 34 others came along to spend the week with us. We believe this is a new demension for the work of the church in the Carolinas. The many contacts, and cottage meetings we have conducted here served as a basis for the new workers. During the meeting we assembled in the building for devotion, after which we organized for the day's activities. Workers were taken to the homes of the prospects and interviews were conducted. Since we already knew the prospects, many of whom we have taught personally, it was not difficult for the new workers to talk with them. Consequently, we had about 45 outsiders from the community to attend the meeting; many came several times. While there were no baptisms, the work of this new congregation was greatly accelerated. We plan a more extensive program of the same type next year.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Bill Shelton, Reporting

Our attendance has held up well during the summer months considering that so many of our members are connected with State College and spend their summers away from Raleigh.

We were made to rejoice on August 21 when Mr. Johnnie Hodges was baptized into Christ. Mr. Hodges is 81 years old and the father of one of the faithful members here. I have conducted three meetings in Tenn. the last three months resulting in eleven souls obeying the Lord and being baptized into Christ, and five confessing error and being restored to fellowship. During my absence the brethren here filled the pulpit in a most commendable manner.

We are looking forward to our Gospel Meeting which begins Oct. 1 and continues through Oct. 8 with Bro. Ray Fullerton of Goldsboro doing the preaching. We invite all Christians in this area to come and hear God's Word proclaimed and we solicit the prayers of all Christians for the success of this endeavor.

A very successful Vacation Bible School was conducted here July 17 - 21, with an average attendance of 131. The school closed on Friday with a picnic at one of the local parks.

This congregation is seeing the benefits of an orderly program of work since the appointment of our deacons. Each of these men has been given a specific area of work and their zeal in performing their duties has served to encourage all of us. We feel that the unity and faith of the members here, coupled with the leadership that we have, can lead only to a spreading of God's kingdom.

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.
John Harris, Evangelist

I have recently moved to Chapel Hill to serve with the small church here. We would appreciate your help in advertising the fact that there is an active church on the campus of the University of N. C. It would be a great help to us in serving the Christians who come here to school to know in advance of their coming by means of a letter from their home congregation. If you see fit, we would appreciate your making such announcement in the Carolina Messenger of Truth.

We are still meeting at the same place given in the directory for Carolina churches, 205 Alumni Building.

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Reporting

The work at Hickory is progressing pretty satisfactorily. The attendance is averaging higher than it has; also the contribution is on the up-swing. We have gained five (5) members by moving into our city, and there has been one baptism since the last report. Bill Smith of the Valdese church and I worked in a meeting at Lenoir. Some work went into the advertising of that meeting ; handbills were handed out, announcements were in the paper and on the radio. Also there was a daily radio program during the week of the meeting. There were three baptisms and one restoration. Carley Welborn is working with the congregation at

HICKORY, N. C. (cont'd)

Lenoir. After working about fifty (50) hours weekly at his regular job, Carley is doing a fine job bringing two lessons each Sunday. While I was away two Sundays, Benny Burns of the Valdese church and Charles Lowtharpe of the Broad Street church in Statesville did the pulpit work. Many wonderful comments were expressed to me of the sermons presented. One Sunday I spoke to the Methodist church here in Hickory. It was a great opportunity for me. (Although some of my brethren would not think so, it was a compliment for me to be invited back.) Brethren, let us do more positive preaching. Negative preaching is all right around our own people, but there is especially a place for tact when we speak to denominational people.

There is to be a gospel meeting October 2-8 at Wilmington, N. C. with Harold Scott of Statesville, N. C. doing the preaching. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening.

SPECIAL OFFER (cont'd)

of Truth for the price of one provided one of them goes to a non-member. Why not take advantage of this opportunity?

NORTHEAST, Greenville, S. C.
Burl Curtis, Reporting

We enjoyed a very good Vacation Bible School, July 31 through August 4. Our highest attendance was Wednesday with 74 in attendance. Average attendance for the five day school was 70. We believe we can have 100 next year if we can find suitable facilities to accommodate that number. From 20 to 30 rode our bus each day to the school.

Bro. James Dorris will be in a meeting here Sept. 18-27. Please plan to attend. Services will be at 7:30 each evening. A singing is planned Sunday afternoon, Sept. 24 at 3:00. A basket lunch will precede it at 1:00.

We have information concerning a preacher in South Carolina who would like to move to some other place in the same state. If you would like more information, please write us.

1602 Burton Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Fellow Worker:

As one who has labored hard and long in mission work in North and South Carolina, I am writing you to express my thanks and appreciation for what you are doing in that great inviting mission field. You will never know what your work means in that long-neglected field.

When I began that work I had to begin almost from scratch. There were about three full-time preachers and a few who supported themselves. There were not more than a dozen meeting houses in the two states. I labored nine months in the year for ten years-holding around 100 mission meetings. I daily thank God for giving me the strength to do this.

Others moved on that field and it is astonishing how many are now working in both the Carolinas. I have labored in the west and also the east. And I have said so many times that I would go east every time. I like the states and the people.

The only reason why I am not over there now is because of my age. At present I am helping brother Keeble develop some preachers. Some of these have gone into that field and are starting congregations among the colored people.

Just these few words to let you know I am rejoicing at your success and my prayers are with you. If I can be of any help at any time please let me know. May the Lord bless all of you in the great work you are doing.

Brotherly yours,
J. W. Brents

THESE ARE AVAILABLE--

Order from Carolina Messenger of Truth, Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C. (All proceeds go to the "Messenger.")

1961 Carolina Directory, churches of Christ, $1.00 each, 2-5 copies, 75¢; over 5 copies, 50¢ each.



Eastern Carolina preachers who met in Kinston July 17 for lunch at the Kinstonian Motel Restaurant. Left to right: Richard Judd (Wilmington), Tom Daniel (Jamesville) C. Dana Malpass (Wilmington), Ray Fullerton (Goldsboro), Joe Costilow (Rocky Mount), N. F. Merrit (Greenville), N. E. Sewell (Kinston), Jesse Condra (Pike Road), August Ruff (Jacksonville), and Jesse Melton (Wilson). All except the Wilmington men and Bro. Melton from Wilson stayed over for the Teacher Training class that night.





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TIME AT VALDESE, N. C.

The picture on the left shows Madeline C. Brown teaching pre-school children in VBS. In the left hand corner is a flannel board scene of Saul on the Damascus Rd. and on the right is a drawing which she made to teach the children that the church is the people and not the building. Sis. Brown serves as editor of their bulletin and reporter to the "Messenger."

The other picture shows Assistant teacher Kay Smith holding the song books the children put together during VBS.

We Welcome You

to
a series of

Gospel Meetings

Northeast

CHURCH of CHRIST

GREENACRE ROAD
(near Pleasantburg Shopping Center)

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER **1961**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JAMES DORRIS SPEAKER

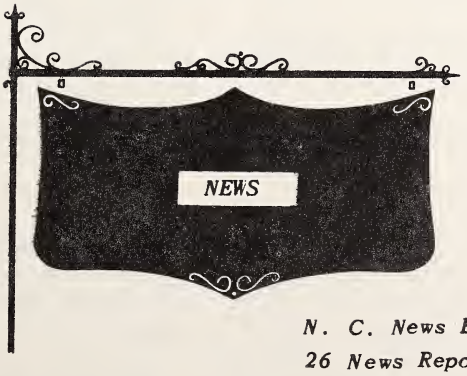
Services each evening at 7:30

Carolina Messenger of Truth



'You Can Prove Anything By The Bible'-page 3

Sampson's Tragic Mistakes-page 5



N. C. News Editor Named

26 News Reports

OCTOBER 1961

SEWELL, N. C. NEWS EDITOR

Noyles E. Sewell of Kinston, N. C. has agreed to serve as News Editor for N. C. We are happy to have him associated with the Messenger in this capacity and we are confident that an efficient job will be done by him month after month.

We have observed that Bro. Sewell evidently enjoys corresponding and this along with his great interest in the Messenger should make the "N. C. News Department" one of the really strong parts of the paper. Undoubtedly this will be true if all of you throughout N. C. will cooperate with him.

In accepting the assignment Bro. Sewell wrote, "I accept the position of News Editor for North Carolina and appreciate very much the outline of duties included in your letter. My first action will be in the shape of a form letter to all N. C. preachers requesting their bulletins and/or regular news reports. I will edit the bulletins for news and compile a report if they do not want to submit their own report each month."

In the form letter Bro. Sewell further points out, "As each of you realize, there is a great need in the mission field of the Carolinas for some sort of contact between the congregations. To read of the Lord's work in other cities and towns is a great source of encouragement to all of us. I believe that the Carolina Messenger of Truth can contribute much toward filling that need for contact, if the news from the churches can be reported..."

Bro. Sewell has set the 15th of the month as the dead line for news to be mailed to him. REMEMBER, mail your news not later than the 15th of each month. News mailed later than this will be used the following month. All news from North Carolina should be sent to: Noyles E. Sewell, P. O. Box 1083, Kinston, N. C. We will try to carry this mailing address each month as a constant reminder to you.

We plan a News Editor for South Carolina but so far no selection has been made. We will make an announcement as soon as possible.

$5.00 FOR THREE YEARS

How many of you would be interested in subscribing to the Messenger for three years at one time? Occasionally we get a letter in saying, "What happened to the Messenger last month? I didn't receive mine," and we check and the subscription has run out. You might call this offer the "busy person's offer." You will not obtain any substantial savings in subscription price but you will save yourself

(see page 3)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

Vol. III OCTOBER 1961 No. 10

Editorial and publication staff:
Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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"YOU CAN PROVE ANYTHING BY THE BIBLE"

Leslie G. Thomas
P. O. Box 7054
Asheville, N. C.

Occasionally we hear some one assert that you can prove anything by the Bible; but it is evident that the one using the expression does not realize how foolish and wicked it is. And it is also a noticeable fact that those who employ this device of the evil one cannot prove anything by the Bible, except, of course, that they are woefully ignorant of what the Sacred Volume teaches.

When any one asserts that you can prove anything by the Bible, you can be certain that the Scriptures have proved his religious position to be unscriptural. How would you like to have it said among your friends that people can prove anything by you? No one would like that; and we may be certain that the Lord is not pleased to have people say that about his Holy Word. But in studying this lesson, let us begin with

SOME FACTS TO BE CONSIDERED

There are some things which have never been proved by the Bible. For example, no one has ever been able to prove

1. That denominationalism is according to the Lord's plan for his people.
2. That salvation is by faith alone.
3. That any one has ever been saved out of the church since its establishment.
4. That mechanical instrumental music was ever divinely authorized for Christian worship.

If anything can be proved by the Bible, then why haven't those who advocate these theories and practices been able to prove that they are authorized by the Lord, or are even acceptable to him? The answer is simply: No one can prove by the Bible that which it does not even so much as mention. If any one thinks that the things listed above are taught in the Bible, then let him tell to which denomination the churches mentioned in the New Testament belonged, and which of them used mechanical instrumental music in their worship.

SOME SELF-EVIDENT TRUTHS

If the Bible is the word of God, the word of truth, then it teaches only one thing on any given subject, and that is the right thing; for truth never contradicts itself. Cf. John 8:31, 32.

No friend of the Bible would place a construction upon any passage of scripture which would make it teach something different from that which is plainly taught in other parts of the Bible, especially if it relates to the same subject.

Before any one can truthfully say that the Bible proves anything regarding any subject, he must be able to show

1. That the Scriptures plainly say that which he affirms is taught; or
2. That there is an approved example which clearly shows that such is the Lord's teaching; or
3. That there are passages of scripture which when considered together make such a conclusion inevitable; and that there is nothing else taught in the Bible which in any way conflicts with the conclusion thus reached. (see page 4)

$5.00 FOR THREE YEARS (cont'd)

the bother of renewing your subscription for three years. There are many who at one time received the Messenger who really meant to renew their subscription but just neglected to do so. Why not subscribe for the next 3 years for $5.00 then your chances will be 3 to 1 better that you will not neglect renewing your subscription? Of course it will be some extra work on us but we have a very efficient Christian lady who keeps the mailing list and she is just the very one to keep up with your name

(see page 4)

$5.00 (cont'd)

for three years. If you like this offer, please send your subscription to her, Mrs. Gene Hicks, 20 S. Fairfield Rd., Greenville, S. C.

"YOU CAN PROVE..." (cont'd)

SOME THINGS ONE CAN "PROVE BY THE BIBLE"

1. That Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world; and that by his death the salvation of all men was made possible. Cf. Rom. 5:6-8; John 3:16; 1:11, 12; Rom. 1:16.
2. That "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." See Mark 16:15, 16; cf. Acts 2:36-38.
3. That those who submit to the Lord's teaching on baptism are buried with him through baptism into his death. Cf. Rom. 6:3, 4.
4. That the church is the body of Christ, and that salvation can be found only in that body. See Eph. 1:22,23; II Tim. 2:10; Eph. 5:23; Acts 4:12.
5. That people must live a faithful Christian life after becoming children of God, if they are to be saved eternally; and if they do not thus live they fall from grace and will be eternally lost, unless they repent and turn to the Lord. Cf. II Pet. 1:5-11; 2:20-22; Gal. 5:4, 16-21; I Cor. 10:1-12.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED ABOUT FAITH

1. What is faith? The substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1. We have not seen Jesus, the Christ, but because of the evidence we believe that he lived on the earth and is now at the right hand of God. He provides all the substance (assurance) for every worthwhile hope of mankind.
2. In whom should we have faith? In God and his son, Jesus. "Without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God MUST believe that he is..." Hebrews 11:6. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth IN HIM should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16
3. How do we receive faith? By listening to (heeding) the word of God. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. The writer, Paul, had just asked these two questions, "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard and how shall they hear without a preacher?" See v. 14
4. Are there any Bible examples of individuals who believed but still were not pleasing to God? Yes! "Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God. John 12:42, 43. So (1) the chief rulers and (2) the devils. "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the DEVILS also believe, and tremble." James 2:19. What about a man who neither believes nor trembles? What about you? Many in the world have come to a repulsive place when, by comparison, they are worse than the devils of James' day.
5. Where can we find faith or believe only in the Bible? These words appear together three times in the Bible. First in the account of the raising of Jairus' daughter, recorded in Mark and Luke and second in the writings of James. Mark 5:36, "As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, 'Be not afraid, only believe.'" See Luke 8:50. James wrote, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. James 2:24. Does this contradict? No, only believe refers to living again on the earth. James has reference to living in heaven.
6. In Bible times what did a person do immediately after believing? He was baptized. The Philippian jailer was baptized the same hour of the night. Acts 16:30-34. The Corinthians were baptized. 18:8.

Sampson's Tragic Mistakes

READ JUDGES 13-16

James A. Davis
Hendersonville, N. C.

Sampson was miraculously born. An angel appeared to his childless mother one day and announced to her that she would have a son, and bound upon her then and there the Nazarite vow which was to be Sampson's life-long seal of God's special providence. Like Samuel the prophet, and John the Baptizer, Sampson was born to a special destiny. Blessed with phenomenal physical strength he would be used of God to begin the deliverance of Israel from the tyranical Philistines. And so from infancy God's favor overshadowed him, and when Sampson became a man the Lord's spirit began to move him.

Great Promise Blasted

But Sampson began to make mistakes which resulted in terrible personal consequences for him. First of all he ignored his parents' advice and contracted marriage with a Philistine woman. His parents were at first horrified that their son wanted to marry a heathen woman who was a bitter enemy of God's people. When they tried to persuade him to look for a wife among the daughters of Israel, Sampson merely replied, "She pleaseth me well..." In that reply he summed up the truth that he was forgetting everything but his own earthly satisfaction. His parents finally consented but the marriage ended in sorrow when the unlawful bride was given to another man, and finally burned with fire by her own people. After that Sampson became immoral with another Philistine woman and married still a third.

It is true that Sampson in his great strength and prowess killed many hundreds of Philistines, and gave them a constant cause of alarm and concern. Yet it seems that his forays against them were more in the pursuit of avenging his personal injuries than from the more noble purpose of serving God. How different would Sampson's biography have been if he had used his great gift of strength to rally the forces of Israel, and with him as their hero to have launched an organized sustained campaign against their enemies. But we see how his unlawful marriages with Philistine woman led to his disregard of the destiny for which he was born.

Finally his heathen wife in consort with her Philistine overlords worried Sampson into revealing that his source of great strength was in keeping his Nazarite vow, thus he forgot God, compromised his convictions, and played into the hands of his enemies. When she had lulled him to sleep Deliliah had his long locks of hair shorn off, and he awoke suddenly to deep shame, humiliation and bitter defeat, for when Sampson treated lightly his precious, sacred vow, he insulted Heaven and God departed from him.

A Mighty Prince Is Fallen

In the ancient prison house of Gaza, Sampson, the mighty, is now chained to the beam of a mill and there, his eyes bored out, in unchanging darkness, he plods wearily round in the endless cycle of his days until that day came when the Philistine lords and ladies assembled in great numbers in the temple of Dagon, their god. Dagon, they thought, had delivered Sampson into their hands and so they rejoiced to see him in bonds, and blasphemed and praised their idol, and sent for their hated prisoner to make fun and poke ridicule at him. Between the two main pillars of the house we hear Sampson crying unto God, "O Lord God, remember me..." And even then he thought of his eyes and asked to be avenged for their loss. But God heard and as Sampson strained against the pillars his strength returned so that he pulled down the mighty temple upon himself slaying the multi-

(see page 6)

NEWS OVERFLOW
Hendersonville, N. C. (cont'd)

different intervals in the meeting, 5 to be baptized and 1 to be restored. These records in attendance, contribution and responses, plus wonderful cooperation from our own membership, combined to make this a great meeting.

Our membership now stands at 58 with attendance, contributions and interest the best in the congregations' history. In recent months we have had three new families of loyal Christians to move into our city which greatly strengthens our potential. We have recently completed new class rooms in our building.

For several months brother C. L. Landrum, who regularly worships with the Northeast congregation in Greenville, filled our pulpit while I was experiencing trouble with a vocal ulcer. Brother Landrum is a capable man who is devoted to the church and the truth. We all came to love him and his fine family and are grateful for his good work with us.

We in Hendersonville are thankful to God for the many ways in which this congregation of His church has been blessed.

BARNWELL, S. C.
Jimmie Dorris, Reporting

During August there were two baptisms and five restorations giving us a total of 43 responses thus far this year; 21 of these were baptisms.

August the ninth our newly acquired bus went into operation. This is the only bus used in Barnwell exclusively for a church group.

Construction was started on the new meeting house in Barnwell the first week in September. The new edifice will seat approximately 350 and will have ten classrooms, study, rest rooms, nursery and will be air conditioned. The B. G. R. construction Company of Pennsylvania has the contract.

SAMPSON'S MISTAKES (cont'd)

tude of Philistines more in number than those he had killed in his lifetime.

Modern Day Parallel

Sampson's life bears mute evidence to the overshadowing providence of God, for in spite of his mistakes God was always able to everrule and bring about his purposes. And we are glad to read Sampson's name in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews. His implicit belief in God was one redeeming virtue. But the glaring mistakes of Sampson still stand to warn us, and they are not without modern parallel.

It is fashionable in many circles today for young men to kick over the traces and fly against the advice of God fearing parents. And too often parents aren't willing to buckle down to the task of holding their young in line. We hear it said again, Samp son's ancient alibi, "It pleaseth me well..." as nominal church members discuss their worldly habits. And so many bright, promising young church members go off to schools of higher (?) learning where atheistic, materialistic professors shatter their faith, and worldling companions woo them away from the strict paths of virtuous living to the social dance and the social drink and the compromising convictions of a spineless religion. And so many of them marry companions who have no sympathy for the "narrow" convictions of their upbringing so that the bright promise of potential good is forever lost to the cause of Christ and souls drift away from the truth and are lost eternally.

God has endowed the parents of a home with the authority to enforce His righteous principles in that home, and He has commanded children to obey those parents in that enforcement. (Eph. 6:1-4). Happy are the parents who follow closely this God given charge and happy are the young people who follow their parents obediently as they keep the charge!

§§§Renew your subscription, today!§§§

BUILDERS

A builder builded a temple; he wrought with care and skill;-
Pillars and groins and arches were fashioned to meet his will;
And men said when they saw its beauty: "It shall never know decay.
Great is thy skill, O builder, thy fame shall endure for aye."

A teacher builded a temple; she wrought with skill and care;-
Forming each pillar with patience, laying each stone with prayer.
None saw the unceasing effort; none knew of the marvelous plan;
For the temple the teacher builded was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple;-crumbled into the dust,-
Pillar and groin and arches food for consuming rust;
But the temple the teacher builded shall endure while the ages roll;-
For that beautiful, unseen temple was a child's immortal soul.

--Leaves of Gold.

Rate Of Violence In Television Extremely High, According To Pepperdine College Student Survey

Murder, liquor, and violence — three words never associated with Pepperdine College — have brought national publicity to the Los Angeles Christian college.

Results of a student-conducted television survey, recording the mayhem, killings, and physical threats in a seven-day "look" at Los Angeles television, have been published in newspapers throughout the country and recently received a fine play in NEWSWEEK magazine.

Fred L. Casmir, assistant professor of speech, headed the study as the "researchers divided up the time to watch seven monitors, each set on a different channel, from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. for an entire week.

Primarily concerned with the amount of violence and number of commercials exhibited on the video channels, the students took in 728 hours of television and recorded:

- ☒ 1261 violent acts leading to death discussed or shown;
- ☒ 1348 violent incidents involving physical harm discussed or shown;
- ☒ 853 acts of violence or death on Saturday, the principal viewing day for children;
- ☒ 258 instances of property destruction;
- ☒ 784 alcoholic drinks consumed.

Confirming many video viewers' pet peeve, the number of commercials ranged from 53 to 434 per day, with a seven-day total of 7887 recorded. There were 119 instances of 20 or more commercials in a single hour of viewing. Food and drink were the most advertised types of product, with soap and cleanser a distant second.

Professor Casmir expressed hope that this might become an annual study.

News

WILMINGTON, N. C.
W. Richard Judd, Reporting

The meeting scheduled here to begin Oct. 2, 1961 with Harold Scott has been at least postponed due to the possibility of an operation on Brother Scott's back.

The writer is now preaching on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 for a new congregation at Bolivia, N. C.

KINSTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

Our average attendance in August showed an increase of 30% over previous months. We are driving for a goal of 75 in Bible Study on October 1st. I am announcing for a local radio station from 5:30 until 7:00 AM each morning in return for a 15 minute daily radio program. I begin a meeting in Annapolis, Md. on Oct. 8th. and Fayetteville, N. C. on Oct. 23rd., the Lord willing. We expect to have Jim Bill McInteer for a meeting here this fall or next spring.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

While on vacation in the Smokies the week of August 7-12, our minister, Bill G. Smith, spoke at the Wednesday night service for the church in Bryson City, N. C.

Sometime ago Brother Worth Burns of the church here in Valdese worked up an interest in New Testament Christianity in a little community about halfway between Valdese and Hickory. This class has been meeting weekly on Friday night with our minister doing the teaching. On Friday night, September 15th, they met in the community church building with 13 adults and 11 children present. This is equal to the number that was present at the service in Valdese on September 10th. We know that this is a great opportunity for the church here to extend the borders of the Kingdom and we are working toward this end.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Fairview congregation
Ray Smith, Reporting

Due to three families of the congregation moving away our attendance has declined to about 25 and contribution about $24.00.

Since our last report there have been 8 restorations and 1 baptism.

We have a meeting scheduled for October 15-22. Bro. Virgil R. Richie of the Central congregation in Spartanburg will be the speaker. Services will be each evening at 7:30 PM. A singing will be October 15th. at 3:00 PM.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad St. congregation
Harold L. Scott, Reporting

I am in Charlotte Memorial Hospital this week and was scheduled for surgery, but my condition has improved so that the operation has been postponed at least temporarily. I wish to take this means of expressing my gratitude for all the cards, prayers and expressions of helpfulness toward me and my family during this disability. Because of it, the brethren at Wilmington, N. C. have released me from the agreement to hold their fall meeting which was scheduled for the first week of October, and which was announced in last month's Messenger.

There have been 10 baptisms and 2 restorations during August and the first week of September. Twenty-three from here attended Carolina Bible camp in August and we feel that the teaching done there was a great factor in the later obedience of those who attended it. Fifteen young people attended the Youth Day at Warner's Chapel on Labor Day. Our young people recently began a monthly bulletin for their age group and are helping in teaching classes, leading singing and making announcements. We are very proud of them in the congregation here.

Bro. Tony Forrest moved to Taylorsville last week. He still needs about $100 outside support and plans a return trip to Tennesse in October to help secure it.

MAIL NEWS BEFORE THE 20TH

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Rd. congregation
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

Recently the church here has been blessed with three families of Christians moving into this area.

During July, Vacation Bible School was conducted. 182 enrolled in the school with 94 of these from families not affiliated with the church of Christ. The highest attendance was 169 with an average of 161 per day.

During August attendance for three of the services were at an all time high. Attendance at morning worship was 126, evening worship 92 and Wednesday evening 69.

Bro. Rudy Senn of Duncan is to preach in our fall meeting, October 8-15. Services are to be at 7:30 daily.

ROCK HILL, S. C.
Al Frakes, Reporting

Our Vacation Bible School, August 7th. through August 11th., was very successful. Attendance averaged 113 with the high for one day at 126.

Our meeting with Brother Carl Lancaster, August 14th. through 20th., was well attended and resulted in one baptism. Bro. Carl was at his best in presenting the gospel in power and simplicity.

Two were baptized and one restored preceding the meeting.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporting

Red Oak church had a meeting from August 21st. through the 25th. held by Bro. Leslie G. Thomas of Vance St. church in Asheville, N. C. There were no new additions to the church but for the members here, those five sermons were most edifying.

We want to thank Vance St. church for their support in spirit, in song and fellowship with us.

Tune in Marshall, N. C., 1460 on your dial, to hear our minister, Carl Hyder, each Saturday at 11:45 AM.

We thank the Carolina Messenger for the spiritual food from its pages.

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

We have information about a number of churches in the Memphis, Tennessee area who would permit their preacher to attend the Harding College School of Bible and Religion one day a week. We would be happy to give this information to any preacher desiring to further his education.

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

It is with sincere regret that we announce the coming departure of bro. T. A. Isaacs and family on Dec. 31st. for New Orleans, La. where bro. Isaacs will work with the Gentilly congregation. The loss of Plaza, felt so keenly by so many, will certainly be the gain of the La. church. As we all continue our march together toward the cross of Jesus Christ, bro. Isaacs can feel the deep and abiding satisfaction of having left a significant Christian impact on the lives of many of us. Surely, this is the highest praise that can be said of anyone in this world.

A city wide visitation program will be undertaken in Oct. by the Plaza members organized into teams and covering assigned sections of the city. All will be encouraged to participate in this permanent plan so sorely needed by every church today. Along with this complete coverage and visitation program, the Elders feel that opportunities for cottage meetings and new personal contacts can be arranged along with the regular and most important visiting of members.

In July we had: 1 baptism, 1 restoration, 2 placed membership. In August we had: 2 baptisms, 1 restoration, 9 placed membership.

We thank God for these increases and for the added encouragement these new souls will bring us.

SEARCY, ARKANSAS
Wayne Altman

(see page 10)

I am in the process of trying to locate a place to preach in the vicinity of Wake Forest, N. C. My home congregation is the Durant Avenue church of Christ in North Charleston. Hence I'm familiar with the great needs in the Carolinas and am anxious to return.

I wish you every success in your efforts to build the Messenger.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
Joe Costilow, Reporting

On May 21st. we had an all time high of 65 present for the Sunday morning worship service. In June we had a higher average attendance at each of the weekly services than ever before. We did not, however, reach our goal of 65 for Bible class on June 25th. This was due entirely to the fact that twelve people, comprised of members and their families, were not present. In addition to our radio program, which began on May 21st., the church has installed Dial-A-Devotional and it seems to be catching on swiftly. We believe this to be one of the best ways to advertize the church. Besides one baptism in June, the J. D. Carter family, formerly of Florence, S. C., has moved to Rocky Mount and is now worshipping with us.

KINGSTREE, S. C.
J. C. Gregory, Reporting
405 Gilland Avenue

James H. Miller was one of the first converts in the establishment of the church of Christ in Andrews, S. C. about 1945. Bro. Miller had a brother, Fred G. Miller, who was living in Portsmouth, Virginia. He moved back to Kingstree, S. C. in 1948. James Miller invited him to come to Andrews to attend a meeting where he was converted and drove to Andrews, a distance of 25 miles, for eleven years to worship.

In August, 1960, the Miller Brothers went to the City Manager of Kingstree to secure a permit for a tent meeting. They were told they could not get a permit because a lot of people followed the tobacco market just to take in money, and since Kingstree was one of the large tobacco areas in S. C., the Chief of Police felt that these two men were just out to make money.

I was called to the City Manager's office and I outlined the manner of worship, method of collections to be taken and the kind of music used in the church (vocal). V. S. Greer, an able minister for the Andrews church, was to be in complete charge. I had a letter from E. T. Brown, a member of the Durant Avenue church of Christ in North Charleston, S. C., who offered to help get this church started financially. A meeting began on August 15th and ran thru September 4th. There were no visible results. However, these people were not discouraged.

T. S. Stone of 1910 West 23rd Street, Jacksonville, Florida held a short meeting here in 1960. He is a very able preacher and has been preaching since 1912.

In April, 1961, the Miller Brothers decided to rent a building and set up the church on a permanent basis. There have been 16 baptized so far since April.

James H. Miller lives in Andrews, S. C. and farms, preaching for the Kingstree church on Sundays. He has been preaching for 13 years, having preached at New Ellington, S. C. for 4 years. He helped with the work in Augusta, Georgia and then returned to Andrews and helped build a parsonage for the congregation. He is very enthusiastic about the work of the church.

This small congregation would like to purchase a piece of property for a church building. I intend to help them find this property, but they also need financial help to get started. I believe there are good possibilities of a large church here in this town as Williamsburg County is 70% colored.

Anyone desiring to help this congregation in any amount or anyone wanting more information about this congregation, may contact the writer.

CHEROKEE, N. C.
Chester Hunnicutt, Reporting

You are invited to the dedication of our new building at 11:00 AM, Sunday, October 15. There will also be a singing at 3:00 PM

 (see page 11)

CHEROKEE (cont'd)
Come see our new building. Come, as together we sing, making melody in our hearts to the Lord. Visitors from several states are expected and of course... YOU!

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Harry L. Postlethwait, Reporting

Effective at once the church formerly known as the Buncombe Road church of Christ will be designated simply as CHURCH OF CHRIST, 2101 POINSETT HIGHWAY.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Bill Shelton, Reporting

Our meeting is in progress at this writing with Ray Fullerton of Goldsboro preaching God's Word in a manner that is inspiring to all of us. Our attendance at the first service of this meeting on Oct. 1 broke all previous records for this congregation with 207 present. Our goal of 200 for Bible Study on that day was not reached, but we rejoiced that 169 people were in attendance which is far above our usual number.

We were made to rejoice on Sept. 24 when Mrs. Ed Morgan came forward to confess Christ and be buried with him in baptism. Plans are now in progress to begin a ladies Bible Class immediately after our meeting. Bids are being received on air conditioning facilities for the building here with plans to have it installed before next summer.

I spoke at both services in Goldsboro on Oct. 1, in the absence of Bro. Fullerton. The goal of 175 for Bible Study there was met exactly, and attendance at both worship services was encouraging. Those of us who work in this area are impressed with the zeal of God's people and have high hopes that the Cause of Christ will continue to move forward.

EXCHANGE OF PREACHERS

Brother Paul Sikes is now working with the Vendover Avenue church in Greensboro. Albert Gonce has moved to Winchester, Tennessee.

Brother C. R. Franks is working in Burlington, N. C. W. H. Johnson is beginning work with the church in Fort Payne, Ala.

FLORENCE, S. C.
Royster E. Moss, Reporting

Brother Carl McKelvey, teacher of Religious Education at David Lipscomb College and assistant minister and education director at the Vultee church of Christ, Nashville, Tenn. is making plans to come to Florence, S. C. within the next 3 to 5 months to conduct a Teacher Training Workshop. Bro. McKelvey and the Vultee elders are desirous that this workshop benefit many teachers in N. and S. Carolina. New teaching ideas and media will be presented and discussed. The problems and needs in this area will be dealt with since the mutual sharing of ideas is always profitable.

The Florence congregation has only twelve families living in Florence but we will provide sleeping and eating facilities for as many as possible. We would like to know as soon as possible how many are interested in the workshop, how many will need sleeping quarters and which three days of the week the largest per-centage of the teachers prefer the workshop to be conducted.

More detailed information will follow soon. Your cooperation in returning the requested information to us will be most appreciated.

TAYLORSVILLE, N. C.
Tony Forrest, Reporting

I am the new preacher for the church in Taylorsville, N. C. I was graduated from David Lipscomb College on August 23, 1961, and have been in Taylorsville since the first of September. I am married and we are expecting our first child. I am a native of Mocksville, N. C. - my home congregation being Jericho.

I have been interested in the Messenger since it's beginning, but had no permanent address so I depended on being able to read another's copy. I am sending you my subscription.

TRENTON, GA.
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

Plans have been completed for me to move to Union, S. C. the first of Jan. 1962, to work with the church there. I have been acquainted with the work in Union for a number of years, having preached in a meeting and filled other appointments there during the time I was with the church at Duncan. We look forward to a very pleasant work there.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Abilene congregation
J. Farris Baird, Reporting

The brethren here at Abilene have set the date for the CAROLINA LECTURES for the first week in April (1962). We are working on the program and will forward this information as soon as we have worked it out in detail.

It surely is a pleasure to be back in the Carolinas after an absence of two years. I began work with the Abilene church the first Sunday in July. The work is moving along in a very nice way. The Abilene church, working with the Broad St. church here in Statesville, started the work in Taylorsville. Tony Forrest is now working full time in Taylorsville. He is being supported by Abilene, Broad Street and some other congregations in this work there.

VALDESE, N. C.
Bill Smith, Reporting

At a meeting of the entire congregation Sunday night September 17 we withdrew fellowship from Mr. James Parise of Rt. 1, Box 115, Valdese, N. C.

NOTICE: The Lord willing I will attend the Harding College Lectureship Nov. 20 - 23. I would like to have 5 persons to go with me and share expenses. Contact Bill G. Smith, Box 72, Valdese, N. C.

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Reporting

Since our report last month, we have had two families to begin meeting with us. Out of these two families, three are Christians. Since the first Sunday of August and going through the second Sunday of September, our average Sunday morning attendance was 75, and contribution was $129.51. Each Sunday there have been an average of at least ten (10) of our regular attenders and members away visiting. Interest is beginning to be shown by members and enthusiasm is beginning to be catching. At least we feel this is true; if all of us were to feel it, this must be true. We are having several visitors each Sunday.

UNION, S. C.
Walter Akers & William Morgan
Elders, Reporting

The elders of the church here in Union have secured the services of Bro. Milton S. Parker of Trenton, Ga. as local evangelist, beginning the first of Jan. 1962.

Bro. Parker has many friends in Union, having preached here in a series of gospel meetings and filled other appointments. He is well known in this section of South Carolina having served as minister with the church of Christ in Duncan for two years.

We are looking forward to a very pleasant and profitable work with Bro. Parker.

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C.
James A. Davis, Reporting

Our meeting July 23 through August 2 proved to be a wonderful success. Paul M. Tucker, evangelist of the Wingate congregation in Nashville, Tennessee did the preaching. A group of 20 Wingate members including 4 of the elders were with us at different intervals to help with the canvassing, etc. and to provide moral support. One of these, David Waggoner, led the singing in a very capable way. Some of these stayed with us for the entire meeting, and some were using vacation time from their jobs back home. Three records were set in the meeting with 111 present the first Sunday morning and a contribution of $225.00. And 6 responded to the invitation at

(please turn back to page 6)

Carolina

Messenger of Truth



NOVEMBER 1961

IMPORTANT TAX CHANGE FOR N. C. CHURCHES

Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.
Goldsboro, N. C.

Personnel of North Carolina churches should inform themselves fully of provisions made by the 1961 General Assembly for claiming refunds of sales taxes all churches must now pay on purchases. Churches were formerly exempted from payment of these taxes by issuance of an "exemption certificate." Now there are no exceptions; each purchase of the church is taxed, even such items as books, furniture, communion materials, building materials, etc.

But these sales taxes paid by churches can be refunded to the churches which make proper claims therefor within two months after the close of the year. These refund claims must be accompanied by proof that the taxes were paid. Hence, it is of urgent necessity that all invoices, sales slips, etc., be kept, and that these show the amount of taxes paid.

The average church in North Carolina will doubtless be able to claim a refund of from $25.00 to $100.00 paid in State sales taxes and we believe all personnel responsible for making purchases or paying bills for the church should be fully informed about the provisions of this new law.

If you have not received a copy, write the North Carolina Department of Revenue, Sales and Use Tax Division, Raleigh, North Carolina, requesting a copy of their Sales and Use Tax Bulletin No. 3, which gives the needed information. Meantime, for the sake of your treasury, save your sales slips and invoices!

N. I. C. E. MEETING

T. A. Isaacs
Charlotte, N. C.

You are invited to attend a meeting in the interest of Northeastern Institute for Christian Education to be held in Charlotte, N. C. at the building of the Plaza church of Christ, 1216 The Plaza, on Sunday afternoon, November 19, at 3:00 PM. Bro. Cline Paden and Bro. Harold Thomas will speak in the interest of the college.

The purpose of the meeting is to give a progress report on N. I. C. E. and to emphasize Christian Education in the Northeast.

Everyone is invited to this meeting and in a special way the young people are exhorted to attend.

J. Harold Thomas is president of this Christian College located in Villanova, Pa.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

Vol. III NOVEMBER 1961 No. 11

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Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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Mission Territory

Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.
Goldsboro, N. C.

"I thought the church would be as strong over here as it is in Tennessee! I don't understand why there aren't more churches!"

This remark is typical of the ones made by those who have suddenly discovered that when they are in the Carolinas they are in "mission territory." Having heard many such remarks during the years I have worked in North Carolina, I have two aims in mind in presenting this article: First, to encourage its readers to more fully and more effectively inform others of the challenges, opportunities and needs in the Carolinas; and, Second, to place before its readers some of the significant areas of opportunity awaiting development by those who care.

We here in the field have and are apparently doing a rather miserable job of informing others about the field. If we who live and work in the Carolinas and who know firsthand what the needs are do not communicate this information to others, then who will? A friend once told me that while he worked in a mission field, he spent about one day each week writing personal letters to preacher-friends concerning his field and that as a result of such activity he had brought eight or ten men into the field during a short number of years. Are our church bulletins largely confined to local news, illnesses and thank-you cards and numerous articles from the pen of Brother Selected? Why not include at least once monthly specific information about some city or county where the church doesn't exist but ought to; or some story about a man you met that week whose interest or reaction was a bit unusual? Why not throw down a challenge every once in awhile in the bulletin? Enlarge the mailing list to include your preacher friends and churches you know of which ought to be doing mission work stateside; use a mailing permit if necessary; make the bulletin attractive and readable. Then, none of us reports as we ought to the gospel papers telling of our work and of the needs of the field.

To say that there are needs in North Carolina is not to overlook them in South Carolina; but simply acknowledges that my work in the Tarheel State makes me better informed about our needs here.

One of these is to be found among several related groups of people which are or have been connected directly or indirectly with the Disciples of Christ movement. One group is, of course, the Disciples themselves. In North Carolina they are largely liberal, modernistic, socially inclined. Conservatives from elsewhere who worship with them tell us they find little to satisfy their deeper needs or convictions. About fifteen years ago some seventy Disciples churches rebelled against the liberal trend, especially against the modernism being taught in their school, Atlantic Christian College, in Wilson, N. C. These churches, calling themselves either "Churches of Christ" or "Christian Churches," organized a smaller missionary society, calling themselves the "Roanoke District" churches, with a slate of officers. They proceeded then to employ a District Evangelist, paying him from the District treasury.

But this man believed in local autonomy so he soon thereafter led another rebellion, taking more than half these District churches with him and setting them up as independent "Churches of Christ." (He believes this is the only "name" the true church can use or be known by.) He organized a Bible college, Roanoke Bible College, at Elizabeth City and accepts support for it from the church treasuries. He uses women in the worship and he trains those under his instruction in the college to defend the use of the instrument. Both groups mentioned here use the instrument. I have met the leaders of both groups and

(see page 4)

MISSION TERRITORY (cont'd)

while the churches in each segment have some things in common there is still much resentment against the "District Evangelist" who traitored the District with his rebellion.

There are two or three other groups also calling themselves "Churches of Christ," some differing in various ways from these groups. There is some "anti-located preacher-ism" among them; there is some "anti-Bible College-ism" among some of them. They usually will fellowship each other although they do not agree. (As an example, churches in one group strongly disavow the "district" setup, yet one church in the non-district group recently accepted a sizeable contribution to its building fund from the "district treasury" of the Roanoke District!) All of these groups use the instrument, but most of the churches in the non-Disciples group are conservatives. Not far from here is a church building bearing this inscription: "OLD FORD CHURCH OF CHRIST, ESTABLISHED 1846." The work of Thomas and Alexander Campbell and James O'Kelly, all of whom worked in North Carolina in various early phases of the Restoration Movement, is still felt although the churches they worked with have virtually everyone digressed to one degree or another.

I say that these groups represent a great opportunity to churches and men who will send and come and work with these people on a person-to-person basis. I feel that if someone or some group would take the financial and editorial responsibility, much good could be done with regular sending of tracts and other printed literature into the homes of the members of these groups.

Another nearly virgin area of opportunity lies among the Negroes of the Carolinas. About forty percent of North Carolina's population, or around 1,700,000, is Negro. Yet among all these people there are only about 15 churches and around 6 full-time preachers! Oh, yes, there are "Churches of Christ." In Goldsboro there is the St. Mark's, St. Luke's and Greenleaf Churches of Christ, all colored. But they are under the domination of the liberal Disciples movement. We have and now are neglecting sadly the colored man. Most of them have never heard of the restoration plea, nor of the church, nor the pure gospel. They have been led by their white superiors into all brands of denominational error. Certainly it will take manpower and money; but here is an opportunity to reach an entire race of people within the borders of our own nation.

Another field of challenge lies in the many, many cities which have no church of Christ. Of 100 counties in North Carolina, there are forty-four which have no church of Christ at all! A recent count showed that at least 1053 cities and towns in this State have no church of Christ. Within easy driving distance of Goldsboro (our weakest area is in Eastern North Carolina) there are dozens of towns which have no church of Christ. There is Nashville, population 8,000; Washington, population 15,000; Clinton, population 10,000; Smithfield, population 12,000; Warsaw, Burgaw, Dunn, Lillington, Moorehead City--all populous and prosperous Eastern Carolina towns but having no church of Christ; there is Elizabeth City, home of Roanoke Bible College, population 23,000 . . . and on and on we could go.

Who will establish churches in these towns? Who will send a man or men into these areas where the church has never been planted and plan to stay behind the work until it becomes self-sustaining? Who will send several men that they might work together among these conservative Christian church people and try to complete the Restoration Movement among them? Who will send fifteen good, strong colored brethren, scattering them out among the Negroes of North and South Carolina to evangelize these needy souls?

Brethren, if you have failed to tell the story of North and South Carolina, fail to do so no longer. And, if you have felt that

 (see page 5)

MISSION TERRITORY (cont'd)

"the church was as strong over here as it is in Tennessee and Texas," please be alerted to the fallacy of that feeling by these brief but simple facts.

South Carolina

IS MISSION TERRITORY, TOO.

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

Many Christians throughout the United States do not know that the Carolinas are "mission territory." After speaking for the Northside congregation in Harrison, Arkansas last July, several remarked that they were "amazed to learn that there were so few churches of Christ in South Carolina. Many have assumed that since the Carolinas are "southern states" that the church should be strong here.

I can well understand the position of those who do not know about the Carolinas. From 1951 to 1953 my family and I worked with the church in Maryville, Tennessee, a short distance across the Great Smoky Mountains from the Carolinas. I had no idea of the needs in these two states. I, too, assumed that the church was strong and was amazed to learn, after moving to Greenville in August, 1953, that there were fewer than 30 congregations in the entire state of South Carolina. The following facts will prove that the church is far from being "strong" even after 8 years have passed.

Every congregation in S. C. is comparatively young. In 1918, a little over 40 years ago, Bro. Thomas H. Burton established the first congregation in Union, S. C. Although Alexander Campbell preached here, all earthly remains of the work of the early restorers were wiped out by the terrible digression which resulted in the Christian church.

Today about half, or about 22, of the counties in S. C. have no congregation. Three of these have a population of over 45,000 each; Darlington, 52,928; Laurens, 47,600 and Lexington, 60,726. Some of the larger cities and towns with no congregation are: Walhalla, Williamston, Ware Shoals, Winnsboro, Lexington, Batesburg and Bishopville all with a population of 2,500 to 5,000. Each of these should have one or more congregations. It is not uncommon for towns of comparative size in Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Texas to have two or more good sized congregations plus several out in the country between these places. Greer, Belton, Lake City, Conway, Mullins, Marion, Darlington, Dillon, Bennettsville, Cheraw and Hartsville, are all S. C. cities with a population from 5 to 10 thousand with no church of Christ. Gaffney, S. C. is a city with over 10,000 people and not one church of the Lord. Another example, if you were to drive the main route from Greenville to Columbia, a distance of 100 miles, you would pass 3 cities with population ranging from 5 to 10 thousand each, but you would find no congregation of the Lord's church. These 3 cities would be Laurens, Clinton and Newberry. Please do not think that this is a complete list. A recent count showed that there are approximately 460 towns here with no congregation. The above list is given to prove that the church is not strong although S. C. is very southern. Who will take the gospel to these people? Perhaps there is an excellent preacher somewhere who knows he should be in the "mission field." Why not make that field one of the Carolinas? Perhaps there are several churches who know they should be doing mission work. Why not put the Carolinas in your plans for 1962?

At present there are about 50 congregations in S. C., counting both colored and white. The majority of these are small. Only 15 are self-supporting and only 5 have more than 100 members. About 20 out of the 50 have less than 30 members. Besides actually starting new works and

(see page 6)

MISSION TERRITORY (cont'd)

helping them until they can help themselves, the greatest opportunity in this state would be strengthening these small congregations. There are about 10 (white) congregations which need full-time preachers right now. They could furnish anywhere from a very small per-cent up to 75% of the preacher's salary if the additional support could be obtained from churches which are able and therefore should be helping somewhere. One congregation which could provide about 50% of the preacher's support has been trying for several months to find a man and the additional support but has not been able to do so.

The 1960 census showed South Carolina's population at 2,382,594. There are approximately 2,680 Christians in the state. This means that only 1 out of every 1,000 you would meet could even possibly be a member of the church of Christ.

Yes, South Carolina is "mission territory." If the gospel is preached to everyone in this southern state, it will take the best efforts of Christians here as well as the best efforts from those who are willing to help who live in other states. We want to express our appreciation to all the preachers and the congregations which helped them in making the work progress as well as it has. In summary, we have what amounts to a good beginning. Let us now really begin to work. Let those of us who are on the field first give our best efforts and then not be ashamed to ask the help of brethren everywhere in our goal of taking the gospel to every person in the Carolinas.

# #

OTHER NEWS

SPINDALE, N. C.
C. N. Womack, Reporting

There were 221 present for our opening service. We sincerely appreciate the presence of everyone. Many local people came for the service and were very much impressed.

Beginning Sunday, October 29, we shall have Bible study at 2:00 p. m. and regular worship 3:00 p. m. Also, we shall have mid-week Bible study on Wednesday at 7:00 p. m.

We recognize one's responsibility to his own congregation but you are urged to attend our Sunday afternoon services. We need you. It is our hope that you will honor us with your presence.

Beginning Sunday, October 29, we shall have a radio program, 7:30-7:45 a.m., on station WBBO, 780 on AM band and 93.3 on FM band. Please tune in and ask your friends to listen to these broadcasts.

Remember our Sunday afternoon services. We shall look forward to seeing you. We NEED you.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Reporting

Please announce that there will be a gospel meeting at the Judson church of Christ in Greenville, S. C., November 5th through 12th. Brother Virgil Richie of Spartanburg, S. C. will be the visiting evangelist. Services are to be nightly at 7:30.

Also, we have planned to have a singing on Sunday, November 12th., at 3:00 o' clock. We look forward to seeing many of you come and visit with us during these events.

ANACONDA, MONTANA
W. Clinton Brazle
Box 635

Let me congratulate you on the production of the Carolina Messenger. It is well done in content and appearance. We appreciate receiving it.

We anticipate publishing a new paper

(see page 7)

OTHER NEWS (cont'd)

soon. Living Stones may have some similarity to your effort and will be mailed on a monthly basis... Send us copies of the April 1961 issue. It was very well written. I'm sending my only copy to a young couple about 200 miles away that have given thought to keeping the sabbath. Hope it is helpful to them.

Our work is challenging as I know yours is. God is good to show the progress the world over. Let's work hard while time remains in our favor.

TWO CRIPPLES

Two cripples entered a church one day;
Cripples, but each in a different way.
One had a body strong and whole,
But it sheltered a warped and twisted soul.
The other walked with a halting gait,
But his soul was tall, and fair, and straight.

They shared a pew, they shared a book,
But on each face was a different look:
One was alight with hope and joy
And faith that nothing could destroy;
The other joined not in prayer nor hymn-
No smile relaxed his features grim.
His neighbor had wronged him; his heart was sore;
He thought of himself, and nothing more.

The words that were read from the Holy Book
Struck deafened ears and a forlorn look.
To one came comfort; his soul was fed.
The other gained nothing from what was said.
Two cropples left the church that day--
Cripples, but each in a different way.
A twisted foot did one body mar,
But the twisted soul was sadder by far.

§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§§

Remember, renew your subscription! ! !

SELFISHNESS

"I had a little tea party
This afternoon at three.
'Twas very small--
Just I, myself, and me.
Myself ate all the sandwiches,
While I drank up the tea.
'Twas also I who ate the pie
And passed the cake to me."

There is a parable in India of the Selfish Fool to whom a rice field was bequeathed. The first season the irrigation water covered his field and made it fruitful, and then flowed on his neighbor's fields, bringing fertility everywhere. But the next season the selfish fool said within his heart, "This water is wealth; it is liquid harvest. I was a fool to let this treasure escape to my neighbor's land." He robbed his neighbor and he spoiled his own crop. For the irrigation water brought blessing while it flowed, but when it became stagnant it bred a marsh.

The Sea of Gallilee receives and gives and is beautiful but the Dead Sea is appropriately named for it receives only.

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News

GEORGETOWN, S. C.
Johnny C. Sewell, Reporting

Bob Plunkett of Tuscumbia, Alabama, preached in a series of meetings with this congregation October 8 - 13 in which there were 7 baptisms and 2 restorations. Since the meeting there has been one other baptism. The membership now stands here at 80 and the contribution is approximately $140 per week. This year the Lord has given increase in the number of 15 baptisms, 2 restorations, and 1 placement of membership.

KINSTON, N. C.
Noyles Sewell, Reporting

We reached a long-time goal and set a new record for Bible Study with 75 present on Oct. 1st. I preached an 8-day meeting in Annapolis, Md. Oct.8-15 in which three were baptized. We used the baptistry in Glen Burnie, Md. where J. B. Grinstead preaches. He will be remembered for his work in Jamesville and Pike Road here in Eastern N. C. and will be returning to Jamesville for a meeting in November. Bro. Grinstead hopes some day to return and establish a congregation in Washington, N. C. May God grant the realization of these hopes and plans.

I begin a meeting in Fayetteville, Oct. 23.

A NEW CONGREGATION

SPINDALE, N. C.
C. N. Womack, Reporting

Beginning October 22, 1961 at 3:00PM a new congregation in Spindale, will have opening day services. We have our building virtually completed. The auditorium will seat more than two hundred, a nursery, two restrooms, classroom, a finished basement for classrooms comprise our facilities. We have over five acres of land with our building which is only two blocks from main street in a most desirable section of town.

Bro. Herbert Ledford from McMinnville, Tennessee will be here for opening day and will begin full time with us. We will have approximately fifteen members to begin with.

There is not another church of Christ in Rutherford County, N. C. Population of the county is 43,000. The potential is unlimited.

Our reason for having services at 3:00 PM is to give people from other congregations opportunity to come help us and to give better opportunity for our denominational friends to visit with us.

The building is located on the corner of Deviney Street and Woodlyn Lane.

Please come and be with us on opening day and on succeeding Sunday afternoons.

Remember! Sunday, October 22, at 3:00 PM Spindale, North Carolina. You will honor us with your presence.

VALUABLE OFFER TO CHURCHES
by Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.

Attention is called to a valuable free offer being made to churches in the pages of the latest issue of Your Church magazine. A 55-frame "preview filmstrip" consisting of full-color scenes taken from the Metro-Goldyn-Mayer film epic, "King of Kings," depicting the life and times of Christ, will be sent free to any church requesting it. We have received our free copy and while we do not endorse every aspect of the filmstrip, we believe churches will find this a valuable addition to their visual aids materials.

Refer to page 6 of this magazine; or, write, requesting your free copy of the filmstrip, to the Society for Visual Education, Inc., Department YC, 1345 Diversey Parkway, Chicago 14, Illinois. MGM and SVE are working together in making this filmstrip available and distributing it.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warner's Chapel congregation
W. J. (Bill) Perkins, Reporting

Since our last report in August, four were baptized and one restored. On Labor Day 330 gathered for an all day program. There were over 250 teenagers from three states, coming as far as 189 miles to enjoy speeches,

(see page 9)

panel discussions, a big picnic, and fun and fellowship together. Eighteen congregations were represented, including Virginia and S. C. We plan another all day program next Labor Day and all are asked to plan for it now. Because of our facilities-- air-conditioned building and across from the building on the residential, a large 50 x 24 foot pavillion with fireplace and recreational area, many requests for such a program annually have been received. The pavillion was made possible through individual efforts.

During the past year there have been 14 conversions and 8 restorations. Special efforts included a record VBS, gospel meeting and a five night training series for personal work and Bible School. Bible School drives helped reach a high of 175.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS NOTES
by Noyles E. Sewell

Richard Judd, of Wilmington, N. C. has recently established a new work at BOLIVIA, N. C., meeting there at 2:30 PM Sundays for worship, and on Friday evenings for Bible Study. He reports 41 present on October 8.

The new congregation in GREENVILLE, N. C. is now meeting in the Rotary Building at the corner of Johnson and Rotary Streets. Bro. C. E. Mannon, the preacher, reports 24 present and $81.70 contribution at the first service in their new location. Their radio program can be heard at 7 A.M. each morning at 1340 KC, and at 9 A.M. on Sunday.

The church at GOLDSBORO, N. C. climaxed a very successful Bible Study attendance drive with 175 present on Oct. 1. This congregation just recently entered its fifth year of existence. In four years it has grown from less than a dozen members to a membership of approximately 100. Its $55,000 building is one of the most beautiful to be found in the Carolinas. We rejoice in their continued good work and give God the praise. We are glad to learn that Raymon Fullerton, son of the Goldsboro minister, has finally recovered from a long siege of illness and hospitalization in both the Goldsboro and Duke University hospitals. On the recommendation of his doctor he is spending the winter in Texas and will appreciate hearing from friends. Address him c/o Jack Davidson, Calliham Route, Three Rivers, Texas.

NEW PREACHERS IN THE STATE include C. R. Franks, now at BURLINGTON and at one time at the Plaza in Charlotte.

Paul Sikes, an 8-year veteran of the state has returned and is working with the GREENSBORO congregation. They plan a gospel meeting to begin October 29 through Nov. 5 with O. P. Baird of the Park Street congregation in Columbia, S. C. doing the preaching. Services will begin at 7:30 PM each evening at 811 W. Wendover (at Hill St.).

OCTOBER IS GOSPEL MEETING MONTH over in the STATESVILLE area. Billy Davidson will conduct the STATESVILLE meeting, Oct. 22-29 and Bro. McCormick from Indiana will preach in HICKORY Oct. 15-22. A meeting also at VALDESE with the preaching being done by J. R. Senn of Duncan, S. C., beginning Oct. 22.

SOUTH MAIN church in WINSTON-SALEM is in a meeting with Maurice Howell of Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 22-29.

Frank Milton of Albemarle held a meeting SALISBURY, Oct. 22-29.

J.M. Swafford, of St. Albens, W. Va. will preach in a mission meeting at HIGH POINT, N. C., October 23-29.

August Ruff, of Jacksonville, N. C., will be engaged in a meeting in WILMINGTON, N. C., Nov. 5-12.

Ray Fullerton, Jr., of Goldsboro, recently assisted the RALEIGH church in a series of gospel meetings in which there was one baptism and one restoration.

The work at JACKSONVILLE, N. C. moves forward as records were recently broken in Bible Study attendance (105) and average contribution ($194.32).

Tom Roberts of the NEWPORT congregation will move back to Texas about Nov. 1 after four years in North Carolina. One baptism was reported in September at MOREHEAD CITY, a new congregation recently established by the Newport church.

HENDERSONVILLE bulletin shows 74 in attendance and $200 contributed Oct.1.

PANTEGO, N. C.
Pike Road congregation
Jesse Condra, Reporting

Two new classrooms were recently finished and additional seating ordered for auditorium. A well is being drilled on the property to provide water for the baptistry and rest rooms.

Averages at Pike Road are running about 130 for attendance with $121 contribution.

AN URGENT NEED

GREENSBORO, N. C.
Paul Sikes, Reporting

This is an urgent request on behalf of the colored congregation that meets on Ireland Street in Greensboro.

The Wendover Ave. church is supporting this work with $55.00 per month. We have just received word that West End in Nashville is stopping their support of $50.00 per month to the work there.

We need to get that $50.00 replaced immediately. They have a capable man, Brother P. K. Alexander, who is at the present working full - time with the church. This extra $50.00 will mean the difference between his having to go back into secular work and teach part time. He is needed full-time.

If any support can be sent to this work the elders here will be glad to assist in any way. The elders here, Brother H.B. Clements and Brother P.D. Kirby, asked that this appeal be put in the Carolina Messenger.

We are aware that many appeals come in for help but this too is the Lord's work. So we appeal to the churches for help in preaching the gospel to lost souls in Greensboro.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Robert Carrell, Reporting

Since the first of February, there have been 17 additions here by baptism and there have been two restorations. The average contribution, March thru August, has been $255.27 per week. Average attendance per week for Sept. was 121 at the morning service. In July the church bought a 3-bedroom brick home for the preacher to live in. This is certainly appreciated. Presently, we are having a 9-week teacher training program which is being conducted by Tom Isaacs of Charlotte. We are offering the 30-lesson Monroe Hawley Bible Correspondence Course here. If you know of some in this area who might be reached through these lessons, please write to the elders here. In April, 1962 we will have a gospel meeting with Campbell Pullias preaching.

A man by the name of Carl Weatherman who, with his wife and son, lives at Rt. 5, Rutherfordton, N. C., talked about the possibility of starting the church in Rutherfordton. This man said that he is disabled but that he is eager to see and help the work get started. He said that some Goodmans are members there. Brethren in the counties of Polk, McDowell, Burke, and Cleveland might be interested in contacting this man. According to the Carolina Directory, there is no church in Rutherford county.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

We have had two responses to the invitation this month. This makes a total of 16 for the year.

A new attendance record was set during our fall meeting with Jimmie Dorris of Barnwell, S.C. Our goal of 100 was missed by 2 on the second Monday night of the meeting.

We have been honored this month by the presence of Miss Ethelene Logue of Columbia, Tenn. Sis. Logue has been a faithful supporter of the work here.

Our contribution averaged $ 85.32 last month (Sept.).

REQUEST FROM N. C. NEWS EDITOR
Noyles E. Sewell

We urgently request news reports from each N. C. congregation each month. Reports should be mailed no later than the 15th of each month. We would also like to be added to your bulletin mailing list if you are publishing one. Address all North Carolina news to Noyles E. Sewell, Box 1083, Kinston, North Carolina

Are YOU Looking for the Church of CHRIST'S Choice?

Many honest and sincere people have never thought that Christ might have a choice in religion, so often do they hear the statement; "Attend the church of YOUR choice." Yet Paul said, "Wherefore also we make it our aim, whether at home or absent, to be well-pleasing to HIM." II Corinthians 5:9 (A. S. V.) Aren't we more interested in complying with Christ's choice than our own?

The Lord does have a choice and the church of Christ's choice is found in the New Testament. Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church." Matthew 16:18. It was established in Jerusalem in the year A.D. 33 through the preaching of Christ's Gospel. Acts 2. No man ever had authority to build another church.

Christ chose to call the church by his own name. For this reason Paul said, "The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16.

Christ chose to command men to:

Believe—"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mark 16:16.
Repent—God...commandeth all men everywhere to repent. Acts 17:30.
Confess Christ—Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. I John 4:15.

Be Baptized—He commandeth them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Acts 10:48.

The church of Christ's choice still urges men to obey those commands . . . Christ chose to instruct men to worship in this way:

Lord's Supper—Acts 20:7. "Upon the first day of the week when the disciples came together to break bread."

Preach—II Tim. 4:2, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season."

Pray—Acts 2:42, "They continued steadfastly . . . in prayers."

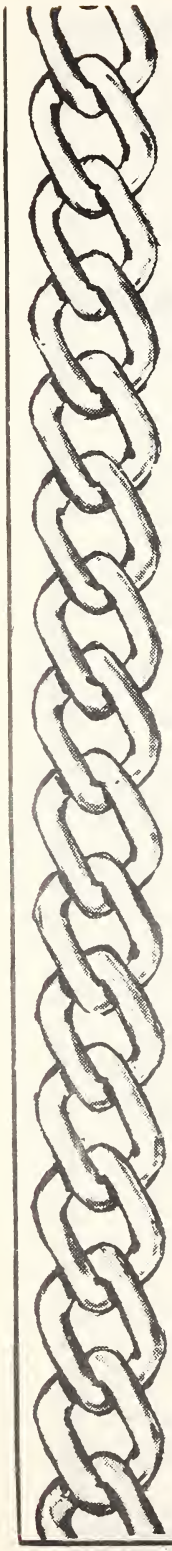
Sing—Eph. 5; 19:20, "Singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."

Give—I Cor. 16:2, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as the Lord has prospered him."

VISIT THE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

NEAREST YOU



Unity –

CAN IT BE HAD IN THE MODERN RELIGIOUS WORLD?

It can be if we respect the wishes of Christ. He prayed for unity: John 17:20, 21.

It can be if we believe there is one God. The Ephesians were told to keep unity on the basis of this truth: Ephesians 4:3-6.

It can be if we realize the dangers of division. Paul taught against religious division: I Corinthians 1:10-13.

It can be if we are willing to yield human opinion to the authority of God's word. Jeremiah urged that man's wisdom is not a safe guide: Jeremiah 10:23.

But unity does not now exist! The modern religious world is divided into several hundred denominations who war over names, creeds, practices, organization, worship and ritual.

Unity can be had when creeds are discarded in favor of the Bible. It stands to reason that none can unite upon that which has divided religious people —human creeds. The world can have the blessings of unity when all people accept the Holy Scripture as the sole authority in religion. The Bible only makes Christians only! If all are just Christians, nothing more and nothing less, all will be united.

You are always welcome at the

CHURCHES OF CHRIST



DECEMBER 1961

ADDITIONAL NEWS

CHESTER, S. C.
Tom Bolick, Reporting

The Chester church has experienced a growth of four in recent weeks as a family was baptized into Christ. There are bright prospects of more in the near future. The church was given a treat in the form of Bro. Jimmy Dorris who conducted a 6 day meeting for us, delivering lessons so timely. We are enthused with our recent progress and have added a Tuesday morning worship service for those working on the second shift. The newer members of the church are growing and will make this a solid congregation in the years to come. Work and patience are the keys to the work of the Lord in the Carolinas as well as the rest of the world.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road congregation
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

Rudy Senn conducted a good meeting here Oct. 15-22. The last Sunday of the meeting a new record was set for Bible study with 135 present. A near record were present for worship with 151 present. Averages for the month for Bible study (114) and morning worship (136) set new records.

One Sunday evening each month one of our young men is asked to present the lesson. We are seeking to encourage more young people to consider becoming gospel preachers, missionaries or full time workers in the Lord's church.

Men from this congregation have been speaking at the services in Easley two or three Sundays of the month in an effort to help the work there.

NEGLECT CAN KILL THE MESSENGER

The above headline is no joke. It is written in an effort to get a point across where evidently one is hard to get across. This summer the circulation has dropped approximately 20%. Nearly all of this is due to NEGLECT. Those who are really interested in the Messenger have just failed to renew their subscription and have failed to encourage their friends to subscribe. Some who would really hate to see the Messenger fail have yet to obtain one subscription in addition to their own.

We understand that Christian magazines are not profitmaking. Even those with a rather large circulation suffer a loss each month in the magazine department which is offset by selling books, supplies, etc. We knew this before we were ever associated with the Messenger. This is why

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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Mistakes Regarding Eldership

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

One of the greatest needs of the Lord's church in the Carolinas is well qualified elders to serve in each congregation. This is an essential if the church is to have the influence that God intended. The lack of qualified elders has been the cause of many problems.

For the first time in my sixteen years in North Carolina, I am now working under an eldership. In the early part of this year five men were appointed to oversee the work of the South Fork congregation. I am personally grateful for these good men and have already witnessed many, many ways in which a preacher's work is made much easier when he can work under the supervision of an eldership.

It is my judgment, based on observation, that brethren often hold some mistaken ideas regarding the eldership.

1. Some think that the eldership passed away with the age of miracles, that God never intended that elders be a permanent part of the organization of the church. This is a mistake. There is still the same need for elders today as there was in the first century. In every congregation there is the need for supervision. Where there is no kind of supervision, very little is accomplished. It is God's will that elders be appointed to oversee.

2. Some think that it is unscriptural for a congregation to exist without elders. Such people get impatient and often get very worked up over appointing elders. They say, "Let's use the best we have, even if they do not have the qualifications." This is a mistake. A congregation can exist without elders, otherwise how could a new congregation ever be started? There were congregations in the first century that existed without elders. When there are men in the congregation who have the qualifications, they should be appointed to serve as elders; it would be sinful not to do so. It is also wrong when no emphasis is being given to preparing men to be qualified. However, it would also be sinful to appoint men who do not meet the qualifications.

3. Some think that if a man has children who are Christians that such a person is ready to be an elder. They completely forget or ignore all the other qualifications. This is a mistake. True, this is one of the qualifications, but we have known some men with a number of children who have been baptized, who had very little vision and judgment about the Lord's work. Along with believing children, the man who is qualified to be an elder must be capable of leading and must have characteristics which cause others to respect him.

4. Some think that if a man has the gift of speech and can get up before the congregation and teach a lesson that he is ready to be an elder. This is a mistake. It is true that the man qualified to be an elder is to be "apt to teach," but this is certainly not the only qualification. We've known men who could do a good job speaking who often didn't understand what they were talking about, or were contentious, or whose influence in the community was bad.

5. Some think that when a congregation appoints elders that these men are to personally do all the preaching and teaching. Such people have often caused trouble insisting that there is no further need for a local preacher once elders have been appointed. This is a mistake. Without doubt, the elders are to oversee the entire teaching and preaching program of the congregation, but there is no scripture that even hints that they are personally to do all the teaching and preaching.

6. Some think that when elders have been appointed the congregation no longer has any voice whatsoever in what is planned and done. This is a mistake. Let it be emphasized that the elders are the over-

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JUBALITES

C. E. Mannon
Greenville, N. C.

For the want of a better term to identify that variety of groups in east North Carolina pleading for restoration of New Testament Christianity while refusing to give up the mechanical instrument of music in worship, we shall refer to these as Jubalites. This designation is suggested in scripture by Moses when he wrote of one Jubal as "the father of all such as handle the harp and pipe." (Genesis 4:21) No doubt, similar groups meet elsewhere, but this writer is not familiar with a greater concentration of those proposing to restore New Testament Christianity while boldly contending for the divisive mechanical instrument in worship. In this paradoxical mockery, one experiences great difficulty in developing any appreciation for that worship authorized by the Lord, taught by the apostles, and offered by the early church. Too long, these modern Jubalites have nourished the mechanical instrument in God's worship; they like it, want it, and are going to have it regardless of divine testimony against it. These refuse to acknowledge the force of both scripture and scholarship against this innovation in Christian worship. They insist that while singing cannot be wrong, the mechanical instrument is also allowed (not demanded!) in today's worship unto God. On this matter, these innovators refuse to yeild, willing to stake their position on Ephesians 5:19 and the "psallo argument" alone. But do unprejudiced readers see a mechanical instrument in Ephesians 5:19? Read: "Speaking one to another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord." Determined to keep the machine which plain English does not allow, these Jubalites bring up the original Greek language as if over one hundred scholars who translated this language had made a mistake. But alas, after we have examined their intricate and biased claims on the words psalms, hymns, and making melody, we arrive at the same conclusion that one derives from reading Ephesians 5:19 in plain English; namely, that the Greek psalmos, humnos, and psallo in the New Testament demand singing a hymn and celebrating the praises of God in song and DO NOT allow these praises to be accompained by a mechanical instrument.

Having been infromed that the music question was the only difference between us as groups pleading for the restoration of New Testament Christianity, a personal investigation was most revealing. Upon visiting the services of two different groups of these Jubalites--one, a Christian church (liberal) and another group having no fellowship with the first--both services were found to be identical. Two mechanical instruments playing simultaneously, choir singing, women solos, special numbers by visiting groups, nightly collections, board rule, and open membership characterized both groups, immediately giving emphasis to the enormity of error being championed, and by a people proposing to restore New Testament Christianity!

Contacts with these people teach us many lessons. We are once again reminded that one error easily begets another, thus the constant challenge before us to "prove all things" and "hold fast to that which is good," (I Thess. 5:21) lest we be as those who "goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ." (II Jno. 9) Usually, the possibility of our breaking down error and establishing fellowship among these people is far less than among those whose religion stands out in bolder contrast with truth, for that false sense of security growing out of a good plea, devoid of the practice it demands, often makes one unwilling to entertain any further study on the subject. Again, our failure to teach, demonstrate, and contend for the truth on

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New Year 1962

Noyles E. Sewell
Kinston, N. C.

It will soon be New Year's Day, 1962 A. D. The letters, A. D., stand for the latin words, Anno Domini, which mean, "in the year of our Lord." The date of the year must now be changed on all newspapers, checks, letters, legal documents, government records, etc; and will thus bear unconscious testimony to the birth of Jesus Christ. For centuries before the birth of Christ, the letters, A. U. C., designated the founding of the great city of Rome, and the years were dated from that event. Thus, Christ was born in the year 750 A. U. C. But how did it happen that A. U. C. was replaced by the letters, A. D. and B. C.? There was no government decree, no royal command, not even a suggestion, that all civilized people should begin dating their calendars from the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. Human authorities would have much preferred to establish a date-system that would honor some great deed or military victory of their own nation. Many such futile attempts were made and the trail of history is littered with discarded calendars involving Babylonian Eponyms, Greek Olympiads, and Roman Consulates. So, we enquire again, by what authority did the Christian calendar come to supplant all others? History can furnish no clue. Historians can explain it on purely historical grounds only in this way - "Some force greater than human will, with sufficient energy to influence all the world and persistence enough to continue all the years, has somehow put the stamp of Jesus Christ on all history." Would not this be an amazing absurdity without explanation if Jesus were only just another man. Here is a peasant of an obscure village in a subject province of the Roman Empire. He wrote no book, he attended no college, he owned no property. His public life was short. He died when he had scarcely reached manhood. He died as a criminal, cast out by his own race, and forsaken by his few humble followers. Yet, twenty centuries after he died on a cross outside the city of Jerusalem, his birth is accepted by believers and unbelievers alike as the point from which all history should be dated. There is but one explanation. Jesus of Nazareth was more than just a man, be was, and <u>is</u>, that which he claimed to be-the only begotten Son of God. His death on the cross of Calvary was a greater work than the sum total of all human achievements since the creation. He made available salvation from sin and the hope of life eternal to all who will come to him in penitent, obedient faith.

As we stand on the threshold of this new year, we are prone to accept the popular sentiment of the season which says, "You have a brand new package of 365 days before you." But for some of us there will not be so many. In fact, we have no assurance of even one more day before us. The Bible repeatedly calls attention to the uncertainty of life with such passages as James 4:13, 14, "Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." We have not, therefore, any claim to 365 days. On the contrary, we have only today, for yesterday in past and tomorrow may never come. Did not Jesus teach us to pray, "Give us <u>this</u> day our <u>daily</u> bread"? To dream of a fair future is wasted energy unless we are busy today making that dream come true. Do you intend to be more faithful in church attendance during the coming year - then what are your plans for today? Do you plan to read your Bible more and memorize dozens of verses-will you memorize the first one today? Do you hope to win someone to Christ in 1962 - to whom will

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MISTAKES (cont'd)

seers; they are to supervise. But this does not mean that they would never provide opportunity for the congregation to express themselves regarding the work that they all together are trying to do. The elders are not to dictate; they are to lead. In matters of faith, they must never compromise; in matters of judgment, they must be willing to make such decisions which will be best for the congregation as a whole. In order to know what is best for the congregation on matters of opinion, they must be willing to listen to the suggestions of the congregation.

I should like to encourage every congregation in the Carolinas to work toward being scripturally organized with well qualified elders. This is God's pattern. What is being done in your congregation concerning this matter?

JUBALITES (cont'd)

any subject opens the way for every conceivable error; therefore, the urgency of our continuing to "speak the truth in love," (Eph. 4:15) and in "Whatsoever ye (we) do in word or deed, do all in the name (by the authority) of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Col. 3: 17).

NEW YEAR'S DAY (cont'd)

you speak today? Take care of today and tomorrow will take care of itself.

A final thought on this New Year's Day is that the common aspiration of human hearts is for a really "new" year. We seek to escape from the memory of an unsatisfactory past, se we look to the future and hope for a change. What most of us never realize is that what we really need is not so much a change in the surroundings of our lives, but a change in ourselves. Should the new year bring all that we hope for-a higher income, a more cheerful home, better health-will we not still have the same old unsatisfied longing in our souls? The unrest in our hearts that makes us hope for a new and better year may really be a craving for a new self! This longing can only be satisfied by Him who said, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He alone can give us that new self. "Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature..." (II Cor. 5:17) We can become new creatures through obedient faith in Christ. "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus, for as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Gal. 3:26, 27) As a new creature in Christ, we will be changed and our world will be changed for "old things are passed away, behold all things are new." Herein is the secret of a happy new year. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." (John 13:17).

NEGLECT (cont'd)

about 16 people give some time, without charge, each month to this effort.

But in our case, we are running short of the financial means to provide the equipment, paper, darkroom supplies, plates, ink, carbon ribbon, film, and two dozen other things. The way we have it set up (we used the only means available to us) there things MUST be provided in order to have the MESSENGER.

The Lord willing, we believe that these supplies can and will be provided, but we cannot assure you that the NEGLECT of the individaul will be remedied. We plan to make every effort to continue the Messenger but NEGLECT can stop it in spite of all we can do.

§ §

Bob Petree of Fayetteville, N. C. just concluded a meeting in Whiteville this past Sunday. On the last day of the meeting there were 5 baptisms.

News

NORTH CAROLINA

NEWS, NOTES, & 'NOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

I appreciate very much the fine way in which North Carolina gospel preachers and congregations are cooperating with me to make this column a real source of news from all sections of the Tarheel State. There are yet many congregations, however, from which we have received neither reports nor bulletins. We urgently solicit reports or bulletins from Aberdeen, Asheville, Boone, Chapel Hill, Dilworth in Charlotte, Cherokee, Concord, Franklin, Kannapolis, Lexington, Marion, Mineral Springs, Jericho, Mocksville, Rockingham, Salisbury, Sylva, Troy, Tryon, Wilkesboro, South Fork in Winston-Salem, and Woodleaf (Corinth). Bulletins and personal letters will be edited for news and reports written for publication will appear as written.

I think last month's biggest news in N. C. must have been the opening service of the new congregation in SPINDALE, N. C. This puts a church in RUTHERFORD COUNTY for the first time, and in the center of the heavily populated Rutherfordton- Spindale- Forest City area. For a little reporting in depth on this new congregation we are thankful to Jim Davis of Hendersonville. The building is a remodeled civic club building, two blocks off Highway 74 entering Spindale from the West. Seating capacity is 200 and it is equipped with a baptistry, class rooms and ample parking space. Bro. Herbert Ledford, formerly of McMinnville, Tenn. is working with this church, fully supported by Old Hickory, Tenn. The eleven permanent members in the Spindale area include Bro. C. N. Womack, principal of Spindale High School who has for years driven to Spartanburg, S. C. to worship. At present, hours of services are 2PM, 3PM and 7PM on the Lord's Day...

The very attractive bulletins from HENDERSONVILLE reveal the attendance averaging in the mid sixties and contribution about $125. They are ordering $130 worth of hard back New Testaments for the pew racks, and are presently engaged in a Teacher Training series using film-strips...

The VALDESE church is presently conducting a Friday night service in the RHODEHISS community. BILL SMITH, CARLEY WELLBORN, WORTH BURNS AND FRANK MILTON left Nov. 19 to attend the Harding College lectures...

We understand that Bro. B. C. GOODPASTURE was unable to conduct the meeting at South Fork in Winston-Salem as had been advertized.

According to NEWPORT bulletin, REAVIS PETTY is making plans to move to MOREHEAD CITY and work with this new congregation about the first of the year. A new preacher has moved to NEWPORT from California but we have yet to learn his identity.

BRYSON CITY averages in October - 24 and about $35. with some outside support being lost. Pray for them.

The meeting with MAURICE HOWELL of Chattanooga preaching resulted in 1 baptism and 1 restoration at SOUTH MAIN IN WINSTON-SALEM. Since the meeting there have been two other baptisms...

DURHAM forged ahead during October with an eleven percent increase in attendance and a twelve percent increase in contributions. Additional programs of work put into effect include: (1) Visitation program two nights per month, (2) Ladies Bible class, (3) Two additional Bible classes, (4) Correspondence course, (5) Weekly food collection, (6) Investigation of the possibility of establishing a new congregation at HENDERSON about June 1,1962.

At least four were baptized and two restored since last report at JACKSONVILLE. The preacher, AUGUST RUFF, was engaged in a meeting in WILMINGTON during November in which there was one baptism.

Via bulletin from Central, Miami, Fla. we learn that EVERETT G. SHOAF, recently of SUMTER, S. C. is now working with the Modello, Fla. church. (I report this in case it is not reported from Sumter or elsewhere).

The Dial-a-Devotional at GOLDSBORO was recently the subject of a very complimentary editorial in the daily newspaper. RAY FULLERTON, the preacher, was elected to his second term as president of the High School P. T. A.

(see page 8)

We believe this makes for good public relations with the community. Goldsboro is also engaged in a Men's Training Class and a drive to raise $1,500. in special contributions from the members to be applied to building debt reduction.

HICKORY now has a building fund started with $750. Their meeting with Bro. McCormick was well attended with a high of 98. Congratulations to CLAY AND ANN HENDERSON on becoming parents of a future gospel preacher...

OLAN HICKS of HIGH POINT now has a new radio program entitled The Open Bible. Listen at 9:15AM Sundays to WNOS, 1590 kc. One was baptized during the meeting with Jim Swafford of St. Albens, W. Va. A new attendance record was recently set with 139 present for worship. A meeting is planned for January using the services of Jim Binkley.

A well attended meeting has just ended in WHITEVILLE with BOB PETREE of FAYETTEVILLE preaching some very fine lessons. Preachers from Wilson, Kinston, and Greenville attended on Friday night. Attendance was in the eighties. At FAYETTEVILLE, Bro. Petree reports that there have been a total of 30 restorations since the recent meeting there in which your news editor did the preaching. During that meeting there were four responses.

Bro. C. E. MANNON of GREENVILLE, N. C. plans to do the preaching in a series of meetings in that city beginning Dec. 4.

The WILSON brethren are making plans to construct a moderate meeting house on their lot that can later be converted to a preacher's home.

FRANK MILTON of ALBEMARLE feels that the past summer has been the busiest of his life. After constructing a new meeting house, a gospel meeting was held utilizing 34 workers from the Riverside, Columbia, Tennessee church. This was followed by Frank's meeting in Salisbury. He is presently conducting several cottage meetings, some as large as 15 adults. Four other families are presently on the waiting list for cottage meetings. The last lesson in each class is conducted in the church building, thus acquainting them with the building and a few selected members. Sounds like a very good idea.

I received a folder in yesterday's mail entitled "Back to the Bible Crusade" News. It appears to be a co-operative effort sponsoring Clifford Davis, whom I believe is one of our colored brethren, in a tent meeting. It is high time something was done to evangelize the colored folk of the Carolinas and I would like to learn more of this "Crusade".

At the first of November, Brethren Paul Vining and Tommy Rosenblum both of Huntsville, Ala. visited several cities of North Carolina which were deemed likely spots to attempt to plant a new congregation. One day was spent in the company of JOE COSTILOW of ROCKY MOUNT and a tour was made of ROANOKE RAPIDS which was under consideration. Another day found these brethren in the Goldsboro - Kinston area conferring with preachers there regarding WHITEVILLE, WASHINGTON and other prospective locations. Still another day found them in DURHAM and in company with GORDON TEFFETELLER motored to HENDERSON to "spy out the land". Their return trip to Alabama included a stopover at SHELBY to consider the prospects there. The result of their trip to the Carolinas will be a report to the Elders of three congregations in the city of Huntsville, Ala. and on the basis of the information gathered these three congregations will shortly send out three preachers to three Carolina locations. In a letter received today, Bro. Vining states that the East Huntsville congregation has decided to put their man in WOODRUFF, S. C. The other two congregations will not make their final decisions until about the second week in December. Bro. Vining states that he and Bro. Rosenblum plan to go into the county and raise support for still a fourth man if possible. This is indeed the best news of the month to all of us, I am sure.

The following are reports from congregations as received...

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Abilene congregation
J. Farris Baird, Reporting

The work at Abilene is moving along nicely at this time. We are presently engaged in a meeting with a different speaker each night. There are five congregations participating in this effort simultaneously. They are Abilene, Jericho, Corinth, Warner's Chap-

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el and Kannapolis. The preachers of these congregations are "swapping" work, in these meetings. About nineteen of our people went to the singing at the South Main Church the Sunday that the meeting there closed.

There will be a singing at the Abilene Church Nov. 26. We are hoping that every congregation in this area will be represented. The church at Taylorsville now meets at usual times-10AM, 11AM,and 7PM, Sunday and 7:30 on Thursday. Abilene sends a song leader twice a month.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warner's Chapel congregation
W. J. (Bill) Perkins, Reporting

Two made public confession of sins and one was baptized during the past two Lord's Days here. On Oct. 30 about 70 young people from South Main, South Fork and Warner's Chapel had a "Get-together". A wonderful time was had by all. The pavillion on the residential property nearby was used. Six evangelists and five congregations in this area are co-operating to enable each place to have an extra gospel effort this year. From Nov. 12-17 the preachers will rotate each night delivering their same message at each place. Names of the churches with their preachers are: Kannapolis (Jack Byars), Corinth (Ottis Qualls), Abilene (J. Farris Baird), Jericho (Harold Simmons), Warner's Chapel (Bill Perkins) and Bro. Clayton Winters of the Lexington church will help out. We believe this to be a fine plan to not only help several churches to put forth an inexpensive extra effort, but it also affords opportunities for fellowship and acquaintance, as well as the power that the extra preaching will render to the church and community. The theme for this special series of services is: "The body of Christ."

BURLINGTON, N. C.
C. R. Franks, Jr., Reporting

My work here began October 1st. Bro. W. H. Johnson had been here something like 14 months and left during the last week of September. We have a great deal of an "at home feeling" having lived and worked in Charlotte a little less than 2 years and in Greensboro 6 years after leaving Charlotte. Since leaving Greensboro I have worked some 6 years in Tennessee, a little less than 2 years in California and a while in West Virginia.

There is a fine and encouraging attitude and spirit in Burlington. We have found a good and harmonious condition. The faith and work of the congregation in the past has given it one of the best starts of any church in the area. Since we have been here our attendance has been near the 100 mark in Bible Study and slightly above that in worship attendance. These are averages. We are happy to see that the evening worship on Sundays and midweek attendance have been in the 60-70 range. The members have given in contributions something over $225.00 per week average during the last few weeks. All in all we do feel like this church has a bright and encouraging future. There is a good program of Bible classes, including a ladies week-day class and one for the men in prospect for the first of the year.There is regular visiting work now under way. Gospel meetings are planned for 1962 and 1963. We maintain a half hour radio broadcast on WBAG Sunday mornings at 8:30.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Bill Shelton, Reporting

We had a very inspiring meeting Oct. 1-8 with Bro. Ray Fullerton delivering the lessons in a forceful and strengthening manner. His subjects were well chosen and the church here was made stronger by his fine lessons on Christian living. Mr. Grant Crocker was baptized into Christ, and Mrs. Joe Little confessed error and was restored during this effort.

On Oct. 29, at our morning service, all previous attendance records were broken when 214 people assembled to worship God. On this same day 176 were present for Bible Study. This was also a sizable increase over previous Sundays. We were especially proud of these two figures since no special attendance drive was being attempted. At the conclusion of the sermon on this day, Miss Sharon Noble came forward to confess error and place membership with this congregation.

On Oct. 25, 16 ladies were present

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for the first meeting of our ladies Bible class. A second session of this class is being conducted on Thursday evening for working ladies. Eight were present for this meeting.

I attended the N.I.C.E. lectures in Villanova, Pa. Oct. 9-13 and enjoyed the fellowship and inspiring messages of many preachers in the northeast. A wonderful work is being done by Bro. Harold Thomas and faculty at N.I.C.E. and this effort warrents our support and prayers.

We believe the congregation in Raleigh is ON THE MOVE. Our project for the remainder of 1961 is to make every member active in God's Kingdom. We hope to begin 1962 with a membership that has the salvation of souls as it's primary aim in life, and everyone with a specific job toward this goal. We solicit your prayers.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

There were no visible results from our meeting October 22-29, with Bro. Rudy Senn of Duncan, S. C. doing the preaching. However, we heard some inspiring sermons from the Word of God and the church was strengthened because of them.

Our membership has been increased by two, and our number by four by reason of a new family moving into the area. Bro. Joe E. Brown, a chemist with the Wolverine Corp. was transferred from Michigan to Morganton and we have welcomed into our fellowship Bro. & Sis. Brown, and into our Bible classes their children, Joey, age 8 and Nancy, age 6. We are very happy to have this family worship with u s, and this brings our membership to 30.

Since the article "ARE WE RUSHING THROUGH OUR WORSHIP" by Bro. Norvell Young was first published we have read it in practically every bulletin (and we read about 35 every week), we have thought about reprinting it in our bulletin. But we are limited to printing just two pages on account of our antiquated, tempermental and j u s t plain "won't work" duplicating machine, so we never did find room for it. However, we have done something about it in our worship. Sunday mornings we sing a song of reverence as a dall to worship, then we observe one minute of quiet meditation before we start the regular program of worship. On Sunday nights, w e open the service with prayer after the song and meditation. This extra time we spend in preparation for worship has really helped everyone to be more reverently minded, we have quieter services (even the small children sense the quiet trend and remain still), and if at any time the services have been extended a few minutes no one has noticed it. We also take time to greet one another and our visitors after the services. We really enjoy our three hours together on Sundays and we meet to worship because we want to, and not merely because it is our duty.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street congregation
Harold Scott, Reporting

The gospel meeting closed with no baptisms or restorations, but visible results in the form of more faithful attendance of the membership and a renewed zeal for work. We appreciated the preaching and the influence of Bro. Davidson during the week of the meeting. It was the best attended meeting of the 5 since my coming here to work. There was an average attendance of 180 and a total of nearly 40 visitors during the week.

October saw the old record of 176 for Bible study broken and become, in fact, the average attendance for the month. Average attendance for morning worship was 200 for the five Sundays.

Highlights this month are a teacher training series which began with 20 present last week for the first session, the ladies Bible class which begins this week, and the evening class for teen-agers at 6PM on Sundays.

JAMESVILLE, N. C.
Thomas M. Daniel, Reporting

We have just completed a ten day meeting. Bro. J. B. Grinstead of Glen Bernie, Maryland preached for us the first nine days and Bro. Jesse Condra of the Pike Road congregation on the last night. There were no visible results in this meeting, however, it was well attended by outsiders in the community and there seems to be a renewed

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zeal among the members. We believe that the church was greatly strengthened by this meeting. We want to express our appreciation to the preachers and members of surrounding congregations for their fine support during this meeting.

Attendance this past Lord's Day morning was 37 which is a little off the usual number as several of our regular attenders were sick and unable to be present and one member out of town.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
W. Richard Judd, Reporting

Brother August Ruff of Jacksonville, N. C. preached in a very effective way during our meeting, Nov. 5-12. One man was baptized during the meeting. Others have expressed definite interest in obeying the gospel. The average attendance for all services was 46.

Our average Sunday morning attendance during Oct. was 62. The average contribution, $80.99. These have dropped just a little since there are not so many vacationers visiting the services. Since June 1, 5 members have moved away. 12 new members have moved to Wilmington, 3 have been restored, and 1 baptized. Hospital visitation and the Jule Miller filmstrips seem to be the most effective means used so far.

BOLIVIA, N. C.
W. Richard Judd, Reporting

Bro. Ruff spoke for this congregation Nov. 5th and 12th while the meeting was in progress in Wilmington.

Plans are being made to purchase a lot and to build a small but adequate meeting-place. Since this is a very low income area, some help will be needed to finish these plans.

Record attendance was 46 with about 30 average. I do not have the information on the contribution but it is low. One lady was baptized last month.

PIKE ROAD, N. C.
June Copeland, Reporting

Our meeting Aug. 6 - 13 proved to be a wonderful success. Jesse Melton of Wilson did the preaching and one was baptized from Plymouth, a nearby town.

We appreciate the fine work being done by Jesse Condra of Wartburg, Tenn. our regular preacher, who moved here with his family last spring.

A number from here attended the singing and fellowship at Greenville, Sunday, Nov.12, and have also supported a meeting in Jamesville, with J. B. Grinstead of Md. doing the preaching.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza congregation
Bill McEnery, Reporting

There will be a gospel meeting at the Plaza from Nov. 26th thru Dec. 3rd with 3 out of town gospel preachers participating for several evenings each.

Bro. Cline Paden and Bro. J.H. Thomas will be at the Plaza here Sunday Nov. 19th from Northeastern Institute for Christian Education. Bro. Paden will speak at 3:30 PM. Bro. Thomas at 6:30 PM. We expect a good attendance will be on hand to hear these outstanding Chrisitan educators and preachers.

Nov. 12, 1 was restored, 8 placed membership and 1 was baptized. Recently we have been blessed with several families moving into the Charlotte area. We thank GOD for these increases.

Sunday, Nov. 5th attendance for Bible school was 235 and Nov. 12 it was 236. Worship attendance was 250 on Nov. 5th and 257 on Nov. 12th. Contribution averaged $400.

The Plaza church announces the following appointments: Brother Ken Durham as elder and brethren Jess Barker, Jim Shepherd, and Norman Smith as deacons. We welcome these qualified men into the service of the LORD.

The visitation program continues at high peak at the Plaza. Frequent bi-monthly meetings and reports by all active groups keeps the program at high pitch. The city of Charlotte is divided into 3 zones. A total of 84 working members were present at the last zone meeting. 90 people were visited last month.

Bro. T. A. Isaacs continues his teacher training classes at the Gastonia church every Thursday evening.

WORSHIP GOD REGULARLY EVERY WEEK!

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
Joe Costilow, Reporting

Oct. 23rd marked the close of our first year of service with the brethren here. As we summarized our joint efforts during this period, we found our average attendance at each of the Lord's Day services had increased by a little over 100 per cent and our mid-week service better than 300 per cent. Our record attendance for Sunday evening was achieved on Oct. 8th with 46 present and our record for Wednesday evening was set on Oct. 11th with 47 present. To start off our second year together we set a goal of 75 for Bible class on Oct. 29th. We had 80, which was an all time high for the church here.

During the past year, the church averaged its budgeted weekly contribution and, over and above its purposed giving, gave $383 in special contributions for unbudgeted items. There were 133 letters mailed to "newcomers" to Rocky Mount, enclosed in each of which was a copy of the tract, "Neither Catholic, Protestant Nor Jew." The educational program was expanded some 300 per cent to include 7 classes on Sunday morning and six classes on Wednesday evening. The teaching staff was enlarged so that no teacher regularly teaches more than one class: with the exception of the preacher and his wife.

Regular monthly business meetings were held through the year; a budget was adopted and regular monthly financial statements were presented. A file system was set up to keep records of all church activities. Included among these records are: minutes of business meetings, financial statements, membership information, correspondence sent, Bible class records, etc., etc. These are open to inspection of the membership at all times.

In addition to the regular teaching of the church, Bible classes were held in the homes of both colored and white, a weekly radio program was inaugurated, and Dial-a-Devotional service was installed. And, last but not least, the membership fluctuated somewhat by members moving to Rocky Mount temporarily and then moving on, but was increased by five baptisms and one placing membership on a permanent basis, which leaves us with an active membership of 23.

SHELBY, N. C.
Bob Herndon, Reporting

Brother Frank B. Shepard, who has been active in the Lord's work for a long time, will arrive around the first of the year to work with us. Bro. Shepard's evangelistic efforts are supported by three congregations in the brotherhood.

Averages for October: Attendance, 35; Offering, $75.55. We were pleased to have a restoration during October. We have recently purchased twenty additional chairs to use in the residence in which we are meeting.

Information about the Shelby work may be obtained by writing Box 414, Shelby.

SOUTH CAROLINA REPORTS

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Reporting

Since the last report 3 have been baptized, 2 restored and 1 requested prayer at Moore. 1 was restored in the meeting at Tryon and 1 was restored in the meeting at Ravens Branch, Tenn.

Our attendance at Moore is good. Interest is very encouraging. We are meeting now at 6PM for our Sunday Eve. service. Attendance is much better.

EASLEY, S. C.
Mrs. Francis Gregory, Reporting

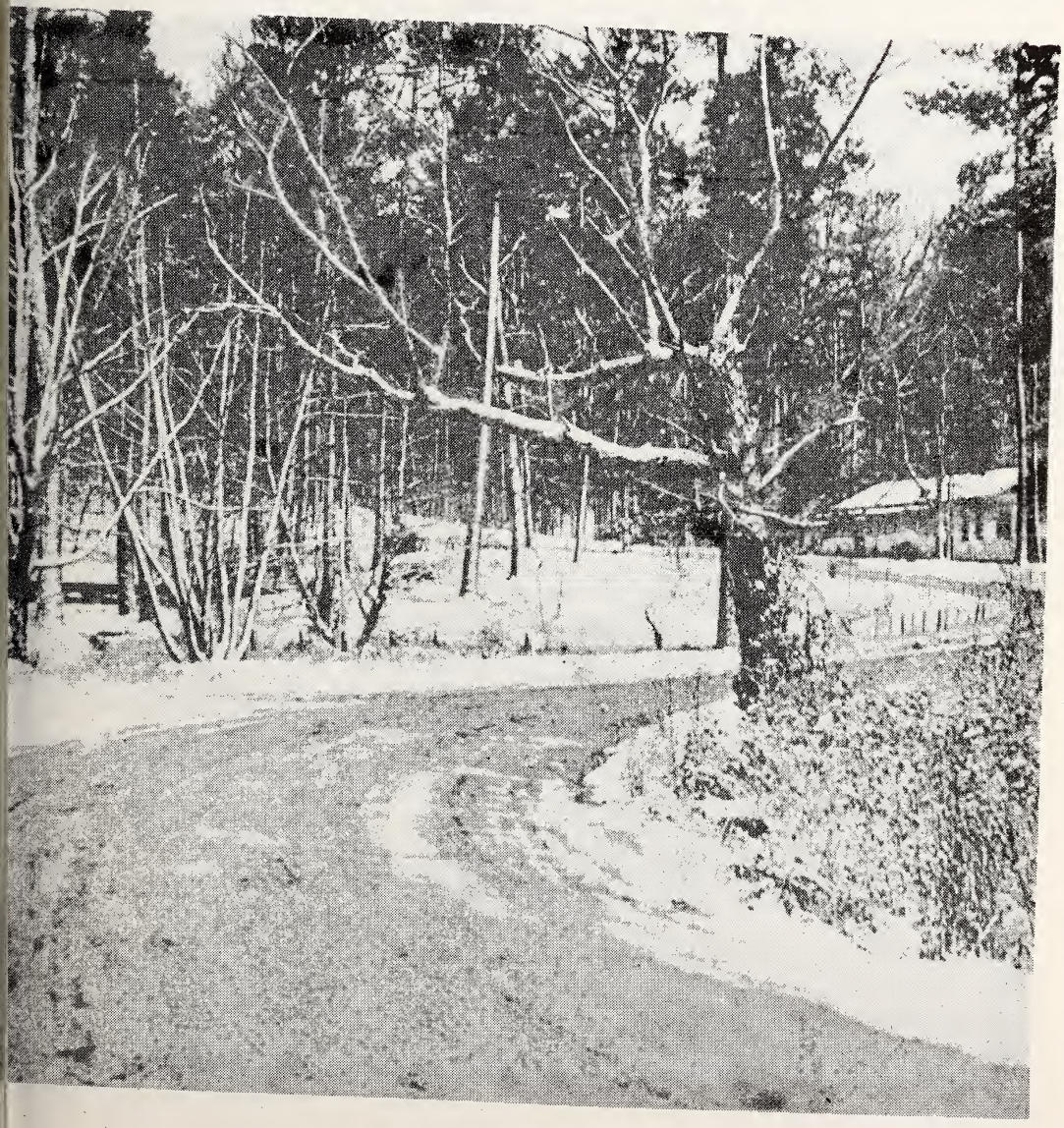
We had one to obey the gospel on Nov. 11, Sun. night. We are happy to announce that we a r e having larger crowds now. The brethren from other congregations have been doing the preaching for us on Sun. mornings. We would like to express our thanks to them. We had a visit from preacher Gibbs, Wednesday night. He spoke for us then, which we all enjoyed very much.

ROCK HILL, S. C.
Al Frakes, Reporting

In recent meetings I conducted in Highlandville and Cabool, Mo. there were three baptisms and one restoration. One was baptized here Oct. 29.

Carolina

Messenger of Truth



JANUARY 1962

JOHNNY SEWELL, S. C. NEWS EDITOR

We are happy to announce that Johnny C. Sewell of Georgetown, S. C. has agreed to serve as News Editor for South Carolina. All news from S. C. should be sent to him at P. O. Box 250, Georgetown, S. C.

Here is part of the letter recently mailed by Johnny Sewell to the congregations in S. C.

"...To do a good job in this work I must have your cooperation and assistance. However, this that we are asking will benefit you. To have items of interest about your work published regularly in this paper will keep brethren in all parts of the Carolinas posted on the progress of the church there. It will also be read by elders and other influential people outside the states who may be interested to send workers and support to this mission area.

"Here is what we ask you to do beginning immediately: (1) Place me on your mailing list so that I will receive your weekly bulletin, if such you publish. (2) Mail to me once a month a summary of the work of the church there. This must reach me not later than the 15th. of the month for it to be published in the next issue of the paper. (3) Work for the CMT by asking the church where you are to purchase a bundle of these papers each month for distribution. You may choose to solicit individual subscriptions so that the paper will be mailed directly to the homes.

"We believe you will agree that the Carolina Messenger of Truth is doing a commendable job..."

Please work with Bro. Sewell in providing greater coverage of the news in S. C.

§ §

SUBSCRIPTIONS NEEDED!!

We are very badly in need of new subscriptions to keep the Messenger going. Please get up a group of subscriptions from your area. Thank you!

§ §

BEGINNING OUR FOURTH YEAR

With this issue we begin the fourth year for the Messenger. We believe that the past twelve months have brought some improvement both in content and usefulness. Our greatest reward has been the certain knowledge that the Messenger has helped with the great work we are doing--the saving of souls. No doubt the Messenger has given information and encouragement to workers in both states, to the small and new congregations and to the increased mission efforts. May this year offer greater opportunities for service.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Johnny Sewell, S. C. News Editor
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"YE JUSTIFY"

Carlton W. Elkins
Bryson City, N. C.

In Luke's record Jesus said to the Pharisees, "...Ye are they which justify yourselves before men: but God knoweth your hearts..." (Luke 16:15). The Pharisees made great claims of righteousness before men, while their hearts and minds were focused on wickedness. The Lord was, and is, the only "spiritual medium." He can penetrate the minds of men and know their every thought. Here, Jesus knew the minds of these people, and he was prompt in refreshing their memory of the fact that God knew their hearts. We need our memories constantly refreshed. We should ever be mindful that we might be able to deceive man, but God cannot be deceived.

The inspired Apostle Paul said to the church at Rome, "And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (Romans 8:27).

Only God is qualified and able to know the thoughts of men, and his eyes are on all things. The Lord speaking through the prophet of old said, "I, the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings." (Jer. 17:10).

When we are prone to justify our actions and thoughts, may we be reminded that we are naked and open before the eyes of the Lord. (Heb. 4:13).

Many justify themselves for forsaking the assembly of the saints, not realizing that their excuses may be justified in the sight of men, but perhaps not in the sight of God.

Far too many justify dancing, drinking, immodest dress (men and women), simply because, "Well everyone is doing it... it is the popular thing to do."

Some justify their acts of worship because they read of it in the old law, but fail to rightly divide the word of truth (II Tim. 2:15), and to heed the warning "... whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." (Gal. 5:4).

Then there are those who would justify laying by in store, just as little as possible, because "times are hard," or "expenses are high," (and at the same time drive a new car, or never fail to keep up with the Joneses by not having the latest style and model of TV set), but God knoweth the heart, and if, we have given according to the measure of our love, and as we have been prospered and have purposed in our hearts. (I Cor. 16:2).

Parents and children justify themselves for placing family before God, but God's word says, "He that loveth father or mother more then me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." (Matt. 10:37).

Some justify not obeying the gospel because "I can't live the life," or "I don't have time," or "I'm all right as I am, I FEEL like I'm saved, even if I haven't done all the Bible says"...when God in his wisdom provided a simple plan of salvation and one gospel (Gal. 1:7-9) of believing, repenting, confessing our faith in Christ, and being baptized for the remission of sins, and then living the faithful life until death.

We can't escape God. YE MAY JUSTIFY...BUT GOD KNOWETH. Let us then heed the admonition of the Lord and seek first the kingdom of God. (Matt. 6:33).

"Humble yourselves in the SIGHT OF THE LORD, and he shall lift you up." (James 4:10).

FROM THE MAIL

Personally, I don't see how we ever got along without the Messenger. It is one periodical (and perhaps the only one) which I read from cover to cover every month. Every word is either newsy, enlightening or inspiring.

Redeeming the Time

Johnny C. Sewell
Georgetown, S. C.

The apostle Paul commanded in Ephesians 5:16 and Collossians 4:5 that Christians redeem the time. The footnote to Ephesians 5:16 says we should buy up the opportunity of time. All too often ministers and other Christians feel that they cannot visit the sick, read the Bible, etc. to the extent they should because they do not have the time. All of us have each day the same amount of hours. The key is to use the time we have more effectively.

I have just read a book entitled, All The Time You Need. In this book are many ideas by way of which each of us could use our time more effectively and so be able to accomplish much more for God, our business and personal happiness. Some of the ideas of the author I shall cite here for your consideration as steps by which we may truly let every flying minute be used for God's glory and our own personal accomplishment.

First, let's keep in mind some helpful attitudes toward time! Let us decide what we want to do, be, go and stand for in life and use our time to achieve our goals. Our four forms of energy (physical, mental, nervous and energy of the spirit) need to be used most wisely or these energies will be consumed while little is being accomplished. To use our energies worrying about past mistakes and impending future dangers to the waste of the present is tragic. Emerson said, "Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could!! Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt, crept in. Forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with old nonsense." Having obtained forgiveness from God for yesterday and having his help with which to face tomorrow, let us use today for worthwhile activities. Worry should be left out of the pattern, for it needlessly consumes time. Jesus said, "Be not therefore anxious for the morrow: ..." Calvin Coolidge realized that worry was useless and said, "Do you find anything in the constitution that says a president must worry?" We could ask, "Do you have any Bible passage that says a Christian should worry?" See Rom. 8: 28. The best remedy for worry is to do everything you can about the problem and forget the rest. Charles W. Eliot said, "I try to cultivate a calm nature, expectant of good." Most of the worries we have never materialize. If a worry does materialize, we have used time needlessly worrying about the matter twice when once would have been more than sufficient. Isaiah 30:15 reads, "In quietness and in confidence shall be thy strength." We tend to worry when a pet project of ours is blocked and use time fuming about our misfortune. It is easy to waste hours in frustrated anxiety. A college president once said, "When blocked or defeated in an enterprise that I hold dear, I always turn immediately to another field of work where progress looks possible, biding my time to resume the unobstructed road." Isn't it better to work hard at something else, redeeming the time, than to chafe hour after hour about that which we cannot overcome. Maybe at a later time we can succeed in the work that is now blocked. But look at what we have accomplished in the meanwhile!

The author of the book, All The Time You Need, gave the following suggestions, among others, which ought to prove helpful to us as we seek to get the most done for the Lord, in our work and in our family and social life. If we could apply techniques that will enable us to do the work presently accomplished in 50 hours in only 40, we will have redeemed (bought back) a sizeable portion of time to be used in other worthwhile efforts that may have previously gone undone. Think of the

 (see page 5)

REDEEMING (cont'd)

personal work, the Bible reading, sick visitation, etc. that could be done if we could save time and then use it for the Lord! But what are some of these techniques?

To shop for time saving devices (tools of our particular trade) may actually be a way of buying time. A few new office supplies for the preacher to replace old and worn equipment might be spending a few dollars for many hours of gained time. To use brief periods of time, such as those few minutes used waiting daily, for reading a few paragraphs in a book, for thinking of a lesson we are preparing or for the memorizing of scriptures would be to use instead of waste these priceless moments. To limit our activities to those things which are really necessary is to save time. Ask yourself, "Is this really important?" When you have found what is necessary, begin with the most important items and handle them first! This means that visiting the sick, for instance, is more important than dusting the furniture and should be done first - leaving the lesser important things instead of the more important things until another time. To be systematic so that everything has its place will save untold frustration and time waste in searching and asking for the item in question. To do two things at once is to save time. Ask yourself what else you could be doing that would not hinder what you are already doing. For example, we drive the car and listen to the radio newscast at the same time. To visit the city library regularly will save you time and money for there gathered are periodicals which keep you posted on various news stories, items of interest, illustrations for sermons, etc. Don't forget to take notes and file them for quick reference. To use the early hours of the day for industrious work is to make more time. Someone has asked, "How can you respect yourself when you throw away the two best hours of the morning?" When our minds are fresh may be the more productive period of the day. Use them for all they are worth! To take advantage of moods is to save time. When you are in the mood for work, keep going. Forget that the clock says it is time to quit. In a few hours when you are in the mood, the work of many hours may be done. To develop a faster working tempo, thinking ahead so that motions and energy won't be wasted, will leave you time to spare. To handle wisely our correspondence is to save many hours and get the letters written just the same. Simply answer correspondence briefly and to the point, answer promptly as it is earier to keep up than to catch up, don't write a letter when a post card will do. To plan ahead, perhaps a week in advance with the understanding that these things will be done if the Lord will, ought to get the job done in a more orderly manner. Don't forget to plan re-creation! We all need it! To read selectively is wise and time-saving. Develop the ability to read for the chief ideas. We can never read everything we'd like to read for of the making of many books there is no end. Sift the wheat from the chaff and read the things that are most urgent and try to do this in a number of fields so as to keep posted in a number of different areas. To say, "No," will give you many additional hours per month. It is easy for the congregation to ask the preacher to do many things that they could do just as well as he, which he does and consequently uses his entire day for errands. You may say, "No," by suggesting an alternate plan, by showing that the thing requested is not necessary anyway or by getting someone else to do it. Who addresses the bulletin? Who in the church can take dictation and type the letters? Avail yourself of the talent that is in the church and many of the time consuming odds and ends which clutter your life will vanish.

It is clear that if the members of the church were truly redeeming the time, all of us would have time enough to do the things that are really important for Christ,

(see page 11)

Building My Home

Christ is building for me a bright mansion,
He is laying each glittering stone;
For he said he would go to his Father,
To prepare me a place by his throne.

He has cleared up the title I'm holding,
That he gave unto me without price,
Which he purchased for me up in Heaven,
At tremendously great sacrifice.

I am sending materials to build it,
That the best Architect of all time,
Will have all that he needs in that mansion,
For that home, individually mine.

There my home has a solid foundation,
And I know it will never grow old,
For it rests on the great Rock of Ages,
Where I'll never fear termites or mold.

All the doors to my house will be open,
Not a lock will I need use again,
There's no cause for a fear in that mansion,
As no vicious one enters that land.

While I must pass on thru the dark valley,
Where the blackness is dense and so deep,
Hand in hand with my Christ will I travel,
Ere the shadows of death 'round me creep.

Though my days on this earth may be numbered,
I am living by faith in his love,
Knowing well when my life here is ended,
I shall go to my new home above.

For he left me a promise in writing,
That he'll never more leave me alone,
And he said he would never forsake me,
But will lead me into that bright home.

--Madeline Callahan Brown

News

NORTH CAROLINA
NEWS NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS
by Noyles E. Sewell
Box 1083 Kinston, N.C.

In the fall of 1958 I went to Whiteville,N.C. with Bill Respess and worked with him in a tent meeting for ten cold days and nights. The meeting had been planned by the Clarendon congregation as a kick-off effort to begin a new work in Whiteville. Arrangements were made to continue regular weekly services in Whiteville using the City Recreation building. Preaching was supplied on Sunday afternoon by brethren within driving distance but the need for a located preacher was strongly felt. For the next 2½ years I worked toward getting a preacher in Whiteville. Several preachers were found who were willing to come but adequate support could not be found. Recently, hopes were again raised by the coming of Brethren Vining and Rosenblum into the Carolinas in search of fertile fields into which to send Evangelists. Their reports to the elders of the Huntsville, Ala. churches included information regarding Whiteville, among other places. Just last week I received word from Paul Vining that the Fanning Heights congregation with which he works will supply the necessary support to enable VIRGIL HALE, presently of WILSON to begin work in WHITEVILLE in January, 1962, as their first located preacher. This is undoubtedly the best news known to me at this time.

The GOLDSBORO building caught fire in the electrical heating system on Nov. 25 completely destroying the heat pump and causing considerable smoke damage to all the building interior. Damage totaled around $3,000. They met in the building for worship only the next morning with attendance of 158. It was decided against using the building again until clean-up and repair was completed so evening services were held in the community room of a downtown bank with 122 present. Averages for the past six weeks at Goldsboro are: B.S. 145,A.M. worship 156, evening 94, contribution $174.83. The FULLERTONS are spending the holidays in Texas.

Some years ago while working with the churches at Pike Road and Jamesville Bro. J. B. Grinstead, presently of Glen Burnie, Md. was able to preach a meeting at Pactolus, N. C. in the Cedar Grove Community Church. This fall while engaged in a meeting at Jamesville he again contacted this group and offered to come for another meeting. They accepted and on Dec. 11 Bro. Grinstead returned to begin the meeting. Each night of last week was well attended by members of that group along with members of churches of Christ from Wilson, Jamesville, Pike Road, Greenville and Kinston. The piano was silent and the choir remained in the audience. Grinstead's sermons were fundamental with no punches pulled. He preached the truth in love and appealed for a complete return to New Testament Christianity. Interest in the truth on the part of the members of Cedar Grove Community church was manifested on Sunday night. With Grinsteads final sermon they requested the meeting to be continued. Grinstead felt obligated to return to Maryland but Bro. C. E. Mannon of Greenville(the nearest New Testament church) volunteered to continue the meeting. Since the meeting is still in progress at this writing, a final evaluation will have to await our next issue.

Bro. MANNON advises that the church in GREENVILLE (N.C.) has located a desirable building lot and they expect to make purchase within 30 days...

The PLAZA congregation in CHARLOTTE was recently engaged in a gospel meeting using three preachers. Joe Cross Meadow, Texas; R.R. Wotten of Murfreesboro, Tenn; and G. Vincent Gaskill of Mobile, Ala. One purpose of the meeting was to select one of the speakers as a successor to T. A. ISAACS who is in the process of moving to New Orleans, La. Also from the Plaza bulletin comes the announcement that JOHNNY SEWELL of Georgetown, S. C. will serve as director of CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP for 1962, replacing Bro. Isaacs, who has served in this capacity for the past 5 years. I am sure that this action by the board of directors will be applauded by all who know JOHNNY SEWELL and are familiar

with his work.

DURHAM continues to have very good attendance figures and on one Sunday in December exceeded their goal of $200. in contributions...

JACKSONVILLE set a new attendance record of 174 during December.

Congratulations to Bro. and Sis. Tony Forrest on the birth of a future gospel preacher. Bro. Forrest preaches for the new congregation at TAYLORSVILLE.

BOONE reports one baptism recently. They have been without a preacher since April of 1961. This is a wonderful mission opportunity for someone. They have a small but adequate meeting house which includes living quarters for the preacher plus an office. Boone is a summer resort town with many tourist attractions and is also the home of Appalachian State Teacher's College with over 2000 enrollment. The following from the pen of J. D. Parker of WINSTON-SALEM supplies further information on Boone. "South Main Street church in Winston-Salem planted the church in Boone, N. C. several years ago and has continued an interest in it by providing partial support and supplying preachers. The church in Boone has been beset by obstacles from the beginning, some of which have retarded the growth. The latest has been a stigma of "anti" leveled against the church, largely because a recent preacher was supported by the Franklin Road church in Nashville. This preacher was opposed to churches supporting homes for orphans from the treasury and Herald of Truth. The brethren at Boone do not hold this position, but they believe it is scriptural to support both Herald of Truth and orphan homes. The Appalachian State Teacher's College, located in Boone, offers the Master's Degree in Education. The church would agree for a preacher working with them to attend this college. This would afford a fine opportunity for some young man who would like to continue his education. The church is in need of help from other congregations to support a preacher. For information, contact South Main Church of Christ, Box 85, Winston-Salem, N. C."

At KINSTON the average attendance holds steady around 70 during the past month with an increase in contribution to average $110. We have several cottage study groups going and expect the Lord to bless with results in due season. The date for our one-week meeting with JIM BILL MCINTEER preaching has finally been set for Feb. 5 - 9. We urge all Eastern Carolina congregations to keep this date in mind and plan to have fellowship with us then.

We appreciate hearing from Jeff Wasson, the new preacher at NEWPORT. The Wassons are Californians, and moved to Newport from Coachella, Calif. We look forward to getting better acquainted.

Following are reports as received...

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.
Nelson M. Smith
Rt. 4, Box 231

I have 21 copies of the 1959 CAROLINA LECTURES on hand. If readers of the Messenger would be interested in them they can be had for 50¢ each to cover cost of mimeographing and mailing. First come, first served!

I moved here to Charlottesville the first of June. Have been away 7 weeks (5 in summer camps, 1 in meeting and 1 on a trip to Nashville) yet 9 have been baptized, 4 restored and attendance & offerings more than doubled. We are grateful to God for the increase.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Bill Shelton, Reporting

On Dec. 13 this congregation had two phone lines installed for use in a Dial-A-Devotional system. We have been very well pleased with the number of calls it has received. The number is 833-4842 and we invite everyone to call this number when in the Raleigh area. Our November attendance averages are as follows: Sunday morning worship 184, Evening worship 110, Mid-week Bible Study 89.

There have been two meetings of the elders of this congregation, in regard to the program of work for 1962. The plans for the year include a more consecrated effort to increase Bible Study attendance, partial support of Bro. Virgil Hale in Whiteville, N. C., hiring of a preacher for the colored

congregation in Raleigh, and planning for the establishment of a congregation in Cary, N. C.

On Nov. 10th Bro. E. M. Chandler, one of the deacons here, moved to Decatur, Ala. Bro. Chandler had been directing our Bible Study program. Bro. Jack Scruggs has taken over this job, and is working hard in that program. Bro. Randall Harley will be installed as a deacon on Dec. 24. Bro. Harley oversees the colored work and has worked diligently in this field for many months. At the present time he is preaching for these Christians on Sunday morning and is conducting a film-strip, teaching program, on Sunday evening.

The devotion and faithfulness of the elders here, the willingness to work that is shown by the deacons, and the dedication of the Christians in Raleigh; causes us to look forward with enthusiasm to The Cause of Christ in 1962.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Our aims for 1962 are: 99% attendance on Sunday mornings, (one of our members works Sunday mornings at the hospital); 100% Sunday nights, (no one works Sunday nights); 99% Wednesday nights, (one member works second shift) 100% daily Bible readers in Sunday Bible School; $120.00 weekly budget for contributions.

On December 3rd, our auditorium class was 99% in daily Bible readers - only one failed to read every day. On December 10th we had 100% family representation attendance, every family having at least one member at services on Sunday morning. This same Sunday the 8 - 12 age group Bible class was 100% daily Bible readers.

At the last business meeting of the church in Valdese, the men decided to buy a new machine with which to print the bulletin every week. The money will be donated by the members of the church here, as our treasury cannot stand the cost of $325.00 for this machine. Those of you who are getting our bulletin know by the quality of the printing, the purchase of another machine is necessary. We hope to go back to a four-page bulletin with legible reading after the first of the year.

We have arranged for our Spring meetings for the next three years, and have made plans for a vacation Bible school in conjunction with each one. The 1962 Fall meeting has been already scheduled also.

A weekly visitation program is being carried on in this congregation, with visits being made to absentee members, and interested friends and neighbors. Some of the ladies visit in the afternoons and couples consisting of husband and wife do their visiting at night.

Since the new radio station, W.S.V.M. started operating in Valdese, we have had a half hour program every Sunday morning - 15 minutes of Hymns of Harding (which is free time) and 15 minutes "BACK TO THE BIBLE" (which time we buy) preaching by our minister, Bill G. Smith.

A get-together was enjoyed by the membership here Tuesday night, December 12th. It was in honor of the college students home for the holidays, in remembrance of wedding anniversaries (four families of the congregation) and with seasonal gifts for the children. Ice cream and cake was served, with each family sharing in the giving of the goodies. We really had a nice time of fun and fellowship. The party was at the preacher's house.

WILMINGTON, N.C.
W. Richard Judd, Reporting

Since the last report, one lady was baptized and one family moved to Asheville, N.C. An organized personal work program was initiated 3 weeks ago, and we hope that it will prove very effective as results and interest draw more workers.

Our average Sunday morning attendance during Nov. was 51. The average contribution, $78.11. This represents a decrease in attendance with the contribution staying about the same. We have challenged those who say that Christmas means nothing to them to prove this attitude by keeping the contribution at least level with the average during this month.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
W. Wendover Ave Congregation
Paul Sikes, Reporting

The Greensboro Daily News runs a section each Monday morning called PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS. They print summaries of sermons that were preached in Greensboro the preceeding day. For the past seven weeks I have been submitting an eight inch column. They list it as: W. Wendover Church of Christ, Paul E. Sikes, Minister. I would like the reaction of the CMT Readers about the advisibility of continuing to submit material.

STUDENTS IN THE GREENSBORO AREA: If any know of students who are attending colleges in the Greensboro area, please, contact us. We would be glad to arrange transportation to the services.

ASHEVILLE, N.C.
Vance St. Congregation
Leslie G. Thomas, Reporting

We feel that we are gaining ground here at Vance Street, and it would be difficult to find better interest than is shown in our Bible classes. There were two addition to our membership roll yesterday by transfer.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Bonnie Doone Congregation
R. C. Petree, Reporting

The year of 1961 to date has been an eventful one for this congregation. There has been 35 additions by baptism approximately 46 restorations, and a great number identified by letter or statement as members. This can be understood as the greater part of this congregation consists of those in military service. Our membership changes at least 30 to 40 percent each year. There has been an overall increase in attendance. Two attendance records were set the week of November 26, Sunday morning Bible study and Sunday evening worship service. The budget which is 25% greater than for the year 1960 has been made.

Brothers Noyles E. Sewell and Ray D. Fullerton preached for us in two Gospel meetings during the year. The church is supporting the work for the colored brethren in nearby Spring Lake, N.C. A regular radio program is broadcast over the local station WFNC, 940 on your dial. The spirit of love and cooperation is we believe at an all-time high at this time and we expect and pray for sound spiritual growth in the coming year. A building program is being promoted.

WILSON, N. C.
Jesse Melton, Reporting

The church here enjoyed an increase in attendance and contribution during the month of November. We had an average of twenty-five in attendance on Sunday morning; and our contributions averaged $43.00 for the month. Contrary to a report in the December issue, we have no definite plans for a building. We are considering the possibility of erecting a unit of our proposed building, which will later be used as an educational wing. We are also studying the possibility of building a dwelling to use for a meeting place; with plans to convert it to a preacher's home in the future. We have acquired a very nice lot and shall endeavor to erect some type of building as soon as funds are available.

Brother Virgil Hale is planning to leave Wilson at the end of this year. He hopes to work with the church in Whiteville if support can be raised. I plan to remain in Wilson through 1962, and longer if it seems advisable.

The "Messenger" continually improves. I hope to send in a club of at least five subscriptions in January. Let's all get behind "our paper" and push!

GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA
Johnny C. Sewell, Reporting

During Nov. 6-12, I preached in a series of meetings in Menlo, Georgia, in which there were two baptisms. This is a mission work in which I was supported by the Wingate congregation of Nashville and the Georgetown church. I have meetings scheduled in the spring of 1962 with the New Ellenton, S. C. and Florence, S. C. congregations. I am being supported in these two meetings as I was in the Menlo meeting.

"Love covereth a multitude of sins."

WHAT IS BAPTISM FOR?

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

Often we are asked the question, "What is baptism for?" We will simply go to the Bible and see if we can find the answer.

First we discover that the word is not found in the Old Testament, therefore, our answer, if found at all, must be in the New Testament. We will not attempt to use all the passages in the N. T. that mention baptism but we will use those which tell the purpose of it.

1. Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness. "And Jesus answering said unto him, 'Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he suffered him." (Matt. 3:15).

2. The Jews were baptized of John to accept the counsel of God. "But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him." (Luke 7:30). Consequently, those who were baptized of John accepted the counsel of God.

3. Baptism is for obedience in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." (Matt. 28:19).

4. We must be baptized to obey Christ. Also, he said it was necessary to be saved. Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16).

5. Baptism is for remission of sins. "Then Peter said unto them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.'" (Acts 2:38).

6. We must be baptized to obey a command. "And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord..." (Acts 10:48 - see also verse 47).

7. We are baptized to wash away sins. "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16).

8. In baptism we are buried with Christ. "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Rom. 6:4).

9. We are baptized to get into Christ and to put him on. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Gal. 3:27).

10. We are baptized to be in his body, the church. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body..." (I Cor. 12:13). Also Eph. 1:22, 23.

11. We are baptized to be saved. "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." (I Pet. 3:21).

Since eternity knows no ending, can there be any doubt what baptism is for? We either believe what the Bible says about baptism or we do not. We have either been baptized for the purposes the Bible sets forth, or we have not. How is it with you? May God help us all to do what the Bible requires.

REDEEMING (cont'd)

his church, our business and our families. Start at once to use your time more wisely. You will get more out of it - and so will the Lord and his church.

LECTURESHIP

LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA JANUARY 14 - 18, 1962

THEME - THE CHURCH, THE FALLING AWAY, AND THE RESTORATIO

Speaker	Subject
Bill Perkins	The New Testament Church
R. C. Oliver	The Falling Away
J. D. Parker	While Rome Ruled
Willard Conchin	The Reformation Movement
Lowell Altizer	The Restoration Movement
C. W. Bradley	The Church of the Present Age

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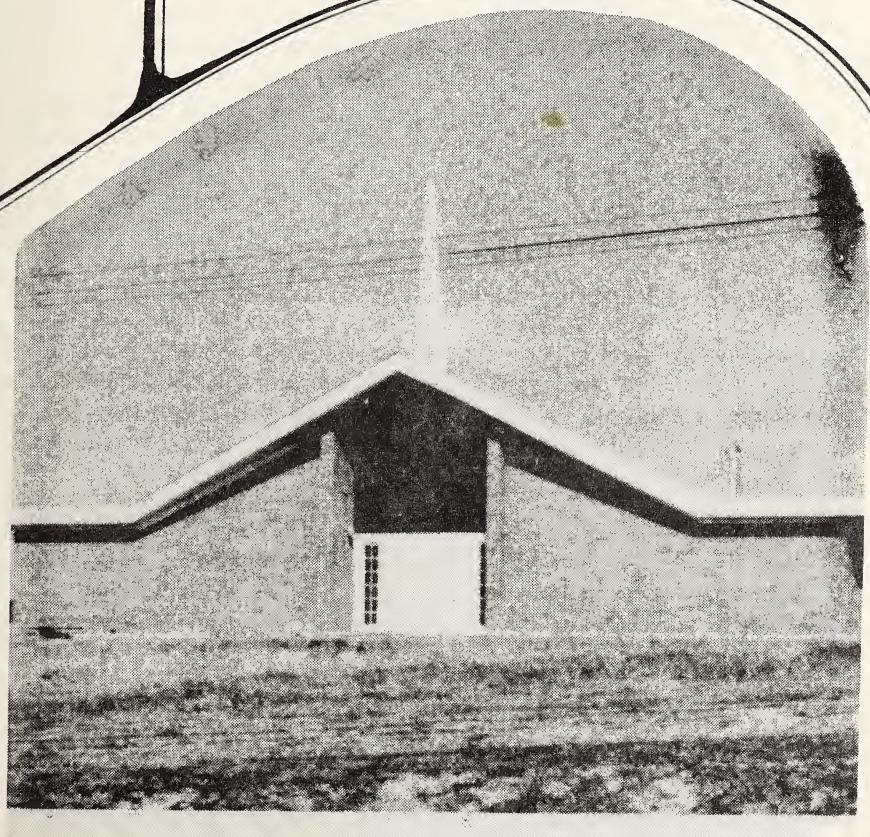
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Carolina Messenger OF TRUTH



NEW BUILDING - ROCKINGHAM, N. C.

FEBRUARY 1962

We have been asked, "What is the editorial policy of the Messenger?" "What does it stand for?" To these questions we answer, "Many things," but we shall point out only one major service we hope to render.

The Carolina Messenger of Truth exists to give a printed voice crying, "Take the gospel to every person in the Carolinas!" We hope to give encouragement, offer challenges, present needs, and point out opportunities that will help reach this all important goal.

Let all those who agree with this goal and all those who believe that the Messenger can be of some help in reaching this goal--let them all support this paper. Let those fail to support it who either do not believe in the goal or who do not believe the Messenger can, in any rightful way, be of assistance in reaching it. We can see no reason to ask a person to assist the Messenger if he believes that it is neither necessary or possible to preach the gospel to everyone in North and South Carolina. Furthermore, we see no need to ask a person to support this paper if he believes that it can in no way be of benefit in reaching this goal.

If our observation is correct, the majority of the Christians in the Carolinas believe the Messenger can help, in some way, to take the gospel to all the people here. Are they wrong? We would welcome your reasons for believing they are. If they are right, now is the time for action. Now is the time to support the paper. Now is the time to talk it up; now is the time to buy and use it. There are too many "neutrals" in the Carolinas. Too many have their motors of "good intentions" running but their actions are in neutral, consequently they are going no - where.

A great opportunity is missed when the Messenger is not sent to more elders, deacons, preachers, and other interested brethren in other states. Many, many brethren are still unaware that the Carolinas are mission fields. How are they going to get interested in these fields unless someway they learn about them. This paper can fill that need. Why not begin now to send it to as many as you can?

SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Through the last of February, all subscriptions to the Messenger will be only $1.50 per year. We have had a good response so far. Remember to get your subscription in before the last of this month. We need your help.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Editorial and publication staff:
Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Johnny Sewell, S. C. News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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WHAT MAKES A STRONG CONGREGATION??

Bill Shelton
Raleigh, N. C.

Many words in our language really say nothing, though they are meant to be very forceful. The word "strong" is one of these words. When compared to a fly, the mouse is very strong. But when compared to the cat, he is weak indeed.

When I hear God's people speak of "strong congregations," I wonder what they are using as a basis for their comparison. In most cases they are referring to the size of a congregation's membership. To most people, the congregation with a large membership is a strong congregation. Yet I have known congregations with hundreds of names listed in its directory that were as weak spiritually as it is possible to be.

Another measuring stick for strength is the appearance of the meeting house. To many people the strength of a congregation is directly related to the type of structure that houses its worship services. To others, all one needs to do to measure the strength of a congregation is to look at the contribution. If ten members of a local congregation give a total of one hundred dollars a week, this represents strength. How the money is used, or whether it represents giving as God has prospered, is of no consequence.

A fourth, and even more hurtful index to strength, is the preacher. Some people feel that if the preacher for a group is well known in the community, is able to speak well on the subjects of love, heaven and faith, then that congregation is "Glory Bound" with nothing able to hold it back.

Then there is the group that thinks that strength lies in the number of Elders and Deacons a congregation is able to appoint. In a recent visit to a congregation where I had worked, the announcement was made that a new elder and several deacons were being appointed. Knowing the lives of the men mentioned, and comparing their lives with God's qualifications, I can truthfully say that only one of these men might (by the most liberal interpretation of scripture) be qualified. Here is the example of a group that thought the number of leaders made for strength.

But what are the things that make for congregational strength in the sight of God? To begin with, I find God's Word commanding to "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Tim. 2:15. So I would say that in order for a congregation to be strong, it must have a Bible studying membership.

Secondly, Paul says in Col. 1:13 that the Father has "delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son." So a second prerequisite for strength is a membership that shows the effects of this translation by the life it lives. In short, a membership that is truly converted to Christ.

The Master himself sets down the third show of strength in introducing one of his great parables in Luke 18:1 when he says "that men ought always to pray, and not to faint." A strong congregation realizes the value of prayer in every phase of Christian living.

Finally a strong congregation is one that visits the sick, yearns for lost souls, attends all the services of the church, and keeps in touch with the brotherhood. I Cor. 15:58 which tells us "therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord," makes these things necessary.

Perhaps when we speak of congregational strength we should state the basis of our comparison. Remember, that the only strength that will avail us anything in judgment is spoken of when Paul tells the

(see page 4)

SHIELDS OF BRASS - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - PAUL KELSEY

In 1 Kings 14:24-28 an account is given of an incident that occured during the fifth year of the reign of Rehoboam, king of Judah. The incident related is about Shishak, king of Egypt's coming up against Jerusalem. So doing he took away the treasures of the house of the Lord. By turning back to 1 Kings 10:16, 17 we find that the treasures from the house of the Lord included 200 targets of gold and 300 shields of gold. Then because of the bareness of the walls when Rehoboam went into the temple he had shields of brass made for the walls and they were to be hung up when he entered into the temple. Of course this satisfied the vanity of Rehoboam but it certainly was a poor substitute for the original things. Figuratively speaking, we often find in modern theology and denominationalism shields of brass hanging as a substitute for what God commanded. One of the most prominent of these is

MODERN DAY REVELATIONS

that are supposed to add to or be a substitute for the word of God. For anyone to start some new religion or religious movement they MUST get people away from the Bible. If they don't do this they can never expect to be successful. Not one religious movement, where people have attempted to draw away disciples after themselves, can be noted that did not first try to have an added revelation that was to replace the word of God. Joseph Smith gave his followers the Book of Mormon; which is considered equal with or above the Bible. Mary Baker Eddy gave "Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures," which is the bible of the Christian Scientists. Charles T. Russell inaugurated the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, which sets forth all theology and doctrines of the Jehovah's Witnesses and without which they would starve to death spiritually. Ellen G. White had her latter day revelations and Testimonies and they were and still are relied upon more than the word of God. And movement after movement could be pointed out, all of which are substitutes and are offering substitutes that supplant the only inspired revelation from God, the Holy Bible.

Of course the originators of these movements have to get their followers away from the Bible or else their followers would find that the "Faith was once delivered unto the saints;" (Jude 3) or they would read 1 Tim. 3:16, 17 and discover that the inspired scriptures make a man complete or perfect; or else they might come across 2 Peter 1:3 and find out that God "hath given unto us ALL things that pertain unto life and godliness . . ." and if some of their followers would find these things out they naturally would not want the shields of brass or substitutes offered by these individuals or organizations, but they would want the real thing.

These people who want to substitute something for the Bible must in some way make allowances for the fact that some will recognize the Bible as God given, and they are going to have to convince the people who recognize the Bible as divinely inspired that their substitute is acceptable. This they do in all sorts of ways. In all of the doctrines adhered to by this sort of person, that is contradictory to the Bible, they must either misinterpret or have their own private interpretations the likes of which Peter was talking about in 1 Peter 1:16:21 and concerning which he stated specifically in verse 20, "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation." In other instances they will plainly wrest the scriptures out of their context in order to further their doctrines. Peter stated definitely that all do so "unto their own destruction." (2 Pet. 3:16)

For those who know the difference between brass and gold this does not pose much of a problem; but to those who are young in the faith and those in the world who are looking for the pureness and brightness of God's word they can be deceived by such tactics and fraudulent practices; and, in the process, be blinded so much by the false glimmer of such doctrines that they will not recognize the pure light given from the doctrine of Christ.

I am sure that most everyone in the Lord's body recognizes the dangers of these substitutes, but still it behooves the teachers of God's word to teach vehemently against these false doctrines and false ways which are nothing more than substitutes for God's plans and ways. By so doing we would be following example after example that are given in the New Testament. Many times Paul, Peter and John pointed out the contrast between the way of righteousness and the ways offered by men and the end of these ways. Many times, today, only by contrasting the pure light of the Gospel of Christ with the tarnished glow of substitutes found in various cults and denominationalism will people be able to see the difference between pure light and artificial light and be drawn to a pathway of righteousness. Let us all let our light so shine, that is, reflect the true light of Christ, that by so doing we may point out to the world that there are many substitutes or shields of brass that can never be pleasing to God.-Paul Kelsey, Salisbury, N. C.

Cont'd from page 12

semester hour.

"The classes are taught every other week. In some programs they are taught in one day; in other locations one class with a double period is held in the late afternoon and early night, and the next the next morning. In Rome, Georgia, and two other places, one class is taught Friday night, and the other Saturday morning. These classes must meet four normal periods in order to meet the credit requirements. You probably know that the classes are in the Bible and closely allied subjects. The courses are offered on the undergraduate and graduate levels. The undergraduate and graduate students are taught together.

"...We want to be of maximum service both on and off our campus. I suggest that you send a questionaire or contact a number of the brethren in your area relative to the possibility of an extension program. We would need to have twenty students in each of the two classes. We accept students as auditors (audit fee is a little less than credit fee) and as those working for credit. If there is a considerable number of auditors, we should have twenty-five students in each class. We will be glad to work with you in any way. Did you think of beginning the extension program February 1, or next September?"

Brethren, surely we will want to avail ourselves of this wonderful opportunity! Twenty or twenty-five people interested in advancing their education in the Bible and allied subjects ought to be easily found near enough to a centrally located city to make this "Christian Education For The Carolinas" a reality!

Are you interested? Yes! Then let me hear from you immediately! Address me: P. O. Box 250, Georgetown, S. C.

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church at Ephesus, "Finally my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might."

News

NORTH CAROLINA
NEWS, NOTES, AND 'NNOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

During January we were again privileged to serve as guide and advisor to the brethren from Huntsville, Ala, Paul Vining and Tommy Rosenblum. They were also accompanied by Bob Langston presently of Rosiclare, Ill. The tour this time included Jamesville, New Bern and Fayetteville. Bro. Walters has left New Bern and the brethren there were very hopeful that one of the Huntsville churches would be able to supply them with a sound gospel preacher and 3/4 support. At this writing we have not received any report as to the action taken by the Huntsville church. We have received definite word, however, that the Fanning Heights congregation along with the Lincoln congregation in Huntsville will send Bro. Bob Langston to FAYETTEVILLE, about April first to start a new work in downtown Fayetteville. It has long been recognized by those familiar with the situation in Fayetteville that in order to reach the native and civilian population of the area a more centralized meeting place is a necessity. Since the Bonnie Doone building is most conveniently located with regard to Ft. Bragg, and since possibly 90% of the membership are in the Armed Forces, it is obvious that a second congregation in Fayetteville is a logical and significant step on the road of progress. Let me include, just here, excerpts from a letter just received from BOB PETREE, minister of the Boonie Doone Congregation of Fayetteville;

"As to the new congregation here in Fayetteville, supported by the church in Huntsville, Ala, it has been decided definitely that the work is to begin on or about the first of April. I personally feel that this is a great step forward for the Lord's church here. I bid them Godspeed and have encouraged this congregation to give every assistance that our ability will allow. At least three families have already made known their intentions to work with the new congregation and no doubt others will do likewise. The whole idea of this effort has been graciously received by every member, so far as I know, and plans have been discussed as to how we may help in getting it started. We are continuing with our own plans to build, setting a larger budget for 1962, and taking on the financial support of the new colored congregation in nearby Spring Lake. Our contribution was $213 the first week of the year, attendance 156. A wonderful spirit of love and cooperation prevails."

Leaving the news of the wonderful developments in Fayetteville, we go now to the far western end of the State and observe that BRYSON CITY recently reached a new attendance record and CARLTON ELKINS reports three baptisms.

Worship at BOONE was snowed out the last two Sundays of 1961.

JAMES DAVIS of HENDERSONVILLE reports ten additions during 1961, plus new class rooms added to the building. Their weekly budget for 1962 is $164.

HICKORY reports two baptisms. Their building fund is around $1000. now.

RAY FULLERTON of GOLDSBORO was recently asked to write an article for Christian Bible Teacher on the use of husband and wife teaching teams. The Goldsboro congregation is one of the few to use husband-wife teams with success. The article along with pictures of the teams will appear soon and should be of interest. J. D. PARKER of WINSTON SALEM will preach in a meeting at GOLDSBORO beginning Jan. 28. The lessons will be directed primarily to the church.

Our meeting here at KINSTON with JIM BILL McINTEER, Feb. 5-9 will likely be in progress when this is read. A staff meeting of the Carolina Messenger is planned in conjunction with the meeting on Feb. 6.

With regard to the following submitted reports, we have found it necessary with regard to some, to use the editorial blue pencil in the interest of space. We appreciate your understanding of this. We are thankful for your reports, keep them coming and help us encourage others to report.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

During 1962 our plans call for:
1. Continuing the cottage Bible classes.
2. Continuing the radio program.
3. Continuing a personal work program.
4. Improvement of and increased mailing of the bulletin.
5. Continuing our public tract program which consist of 4 tract racks now.
6. Continue mailing "special" issues of the 20th Century Christian.
7. Two gospel meetings.
8. Vacation Bible School.
9. A budget of $120.00 per week.
10. Beginning of hospital visitation.
11. Putting more Christians to work.

Our first mailing of the new bulletins goes out this week, the second week in the new year of 1962. We are using all new materials, new type machine and different typewriter. Both the preacher and the editor will strive to make our bulletin really worthwhile to all who read it.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

Our search for a preacher continues after hearing several wonderful lessons by brethren from out of the state. We thank GOD for these capable men and pray that a new man will soon be found to work with us here. Next Lord's Day (Jan 21st) we will hear Bro. Yarbrough E. Lee of Talahassee, Fla.

The men of the Plaza met in a business meeting and decided that a 3rd congregation in Charlotte should be attempted this year with Johnnie Sewell working with the new congregation. Painting and repairs were planned for the preacher's home as well as the church building. A broader program of advertizing will be attempted this year utilizing newspapers, radio, motel & hotel placements, street and Hwy. signs. Financial support will be given the colored brethren as they prepare to move into their new and first building here in Charlotte. Our mission work will have to be eliminated temporarily when the new congregation is started but will be resumed as soon as practical. We ask for GOD'S blessings, your thoughts and prayers as we enter boldly and hopefully into 1962.

We have been blessed by the addition of several new families recently. Our Sunday morning attendance is fast approaching 250. We have almost a surplus of competent, able, willing men who can lead singing, teach, and preach. This is the healthy atmosphere in which a new church should be born if we are to spread the Gospel as GOD commands us.

NEW ALBANY, MISSIPPI
Darrell E. Beard, Reporting

I have recently moved from Aberdeen, N. C. to New Albany, Mississippi and I wish to express my appreciation for the pleasant and profitable association with the Carolina brethren these past four and a half years. I will always be deeply interested in the Carolina work and would enjoy receiving bulletins from you brethren from time-to-time.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C.
August C. Ruff, Reporting

The church in the Jacksonville area witnessed several signs of growth during 1961. The averages for the year were as follows: 96 for Bible Study, 143 for morning worship; 90 for evening services, and 73 for Wednesday evening classes. The budget for the year was set at $165.00 and the average contribution was $170.20.

There was a total of 18 baptisms and 19 restorations. Since our congregation is largely made up of military personnel we had several to place membership and we also lost several families due to transfers.

We are anticipating greater things in 1962. We have a group that is willing to work and strive toward perfection.

Our gospel meeting will be March 6-15 with Bro. Willard Willis, from Luverne, Alabama, preaching. All are invited!

RALEIGH, N. C.
Bill Shelton, Reporting

On Jan. 7 Bro. Randall Harley was presented to the congregation as a deacon. The leaders, as well as the

membership, are looking forward to working with Bro. Harley. Two meetings have been held recently by the leaders here for discussion of ways to build up our Bible Study program. We hope to have 200 in attendance in the near future. Bro. Jack Scruggs is directing the Bible Study program.

Bro. V. E. Williamson will speak for the colored congregation in Raleigh on Jan.28. Bro. Williamson is being considered by the elders here as a full time preacher for that work.

We plan our first class in the presentation of cottage meeting filmstrips on Jan. 15. We have obtained the use of a series of filmstrips in this field from Bro. Byrd R. Lewis of Gastonia. All of the teachers in our Bible Study program as well as any other members interested in doing personal work, is invited to this class. After showing the five filmstrips in this series, we plan to make definite plans for a cottage meeting program.

Most of the members here have returned from their holiday trips and our attendance was 189 on Jan. 7. A consecrated effort has been made to increase interest in our Dial-A-Devotional service. All teachers in the city and county school systems have been sent cards advertising this service, and requested to inform their students. Many of the radio stations have already given us advertisement on their public service announcements, and one newspaper has agreed to write-up the service. We are anticipating the most fruitful year in the history of this congregation. We solicit your prayers.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad St. Congregation
Harold Scott, Reporting

Several of the highlights of the past year for this congregation were: Thirteen were baptized into Christ, a new congregation was established in Taylorsville, N. C. and a full time evangelist secured to work there- he is supported $125 per month by this congregation; new records for Bible study and Wednesday night Bible study were set and the old record in morning worship attendance was equalled with averages of 144 for the year in Bible study, 175 in morning worship, 84 on Wednesday evening. As a congregation we contributed approximately $1000.00 more in 1961 than in 1960. $10,818.49 was spent in the Lords work this year. Next years budget calls for $11,875.00. Our goals for 1962 are to average 165 in Bible study, 200 in worship, and to complete the job begun this year of properly equipping our classrooms for Bible teaching.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.
Joe Costilow, Reporting

The church has adopted a budget for 1962 calling for a weekly contribution of $111.81, which sum includes $20.00 per week on the local preacher's support. This marks the first time the Rocky Mount church has assumed responsibility for a part of the preacher's salary and is the first step toward our goal of becoming self-supporting.

The membership has again been reduced by a member moving away and this leaves us with ten member families and twenty-one members.

In a recent subscription drive for The Carolina Messenger of Truth we received subscriptions representing 1 for each family of the congregation. This reporter would like to urge other congregations to do the same.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C.
Bill Williams, Reporting

On Dec. 31 this group moved into their beautiful new building. Needless to say we are very proud of it and know it will be a wonderful tool that we can use in the work here. The building is of concrete block and brick construction with exposed laminated wood arches and beams inside. We have ten class rooms, nursery, study, large foyer, and rest rooms and an auditorium that seats 272. The building is located just off U. S. Highway 74 just east of town.

Sunday, Jan. 7, one was baptized and two were rededicated to the Lord.

We plan to have open house from 2:00 until 5:00, Jan. 21 and C. W. Bradley of Winston Salem will begin a meeting that night and continue through Jan. 26. J. B. Whitaker is in his second year of work with the church here - a tireless worker in the Lord's service.

FRED EVANS
Rome church of Christ
Carthage, Tennessee

"If you are contemplating a change in location and desire to remain in North Carolina please contact me immediately. A man will soon be needed for work in a town where the church is small in number, but where hard work is needed. This is a mission point but support will be arranged. The man selected must be a good personal worker"

SPINDALE, N. C.
Herbert G. Ledford, Reporting

Since the establishing of the church here in October, our Sunday day services have been in the afternoon. The first Sunday in Jan. our time of services was changed to 10 and 11, with evening services at 7.

We are now broadcasting seven days a week over WBBO, 780 on AM band and 93.3 on FM band. Our Sunday program begins at 7:30; other broadcasts begin at 9:30. If you can pick up this broadcast in your town we would appreciate hearing from you. Our radio programs are sponsored by the East End church in McMinnville, Tenn. We are grateful for such good friends. I am supported by the Old Hickory congregation in Nashville, Tennessee.

We publish a weekly column in the local paper. We have reached some through this medium. The Jule Miller filmstrips are being used in personal work.

This is a friendly area and we have been received graciously. Our fervent prayers are that in the near future there will be a strong congregation of the Lord's church in this heavily populated, industrial center.

SALISBURY, N. C.
Paul Kelsey, Reporting

The work progresses here in Salisbury. In the last six months there has been 7 baptisms and 2 restorations with good prospects of further additions in the near future. A gospel meeting was held from Jan. 14-19 with Bro. Jim Binkley doing the preaching. We solicit your prayers for the Lord's work here.

CAROLINA LECTURE INFORMATION

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Abilene Congregation
J. Farris Baird, Reporting

We had two baptisms January 4. The church here is making a contribution to the new work that was started in Taylorsville, N. C. in February of 1961. We contribute $75 each month towards the support of Tony Forrest. In addition we send some one to Taylorsville each Lord's Day to lead the singing.

The CAROLINA LECTURES are to be at Abilene the first week in April. The theme for the lectures will be "THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST." We are in the process of mailing out notices to the preaching brethren in the Carolinas. For the most part we are going to have to depend on the directory that was printed f o r 1961 for our mailing list. We realize that some of the churches have new men working with them since the Directory was published. We request that all who know of such changes notify us immediately.

For the CAROLINA LECTURES in 1962 we would like to have a display that would give a delineation of the work that is being done by each congregation in the Carolinas. We would like to start with this, and anything that each congregation would like to add will be alright: Abilene will provide a bulletin board, and we are asking that each congregation send us (or bring) a snap shot of the building that is being used (if you have a new building, I think that a "THEN and NOW" picture would be nice), and along with the picture a short history of the congregation. When established, names of preachers who have worked with the congregation.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Virgil L. Hale, Reporting

Last Sunday, we had the service at t h e regular time. We have Sunday school at 10:00 on Sunday morning, worship at 11:00, Sunday evening services at 7:00, and the Wednesday evening service is also at 7:00. Last Sunday, we had 46 present, and the contribution w a s $43.83. Wednesday evening, we had 32 present.

WILSON, N. C.
Jesse Melton, Reporting

The month of December saw our attendance drop considerably, due to quite a few being out of town for the holidays. We began the new year with 22 in attendance the first Sunday. My family and I enjoyed a weeks visitation with friends and relatives in Nashville, Tennessee during December. It was a pleasure to visit the new facilities of the Gospel Advocate: I was particularly impressed with the Audio-visual display room. While there, it was my priviledge to visit in the home of brother J. W. Brents. I found it very interesting to listen to brother Brents describe the situation in the Carolinas when he began his work here. He rejoices greatly over the progress of the church during the past twenty years, in this area.

We have recently purchased the Jule Miller filmstrips, along with the records and a combination projector-record player. This equipment is very compact and ideal for use among small groups. We hope to show these films in as many homes as possible. One preacher in Nashville informed me that they were averaging 50% in conversions with this same equipment. I think this is an exception, but I believe it proves the advisability of using filmstrips. In addition to the filmstrips and other equipment, we have also purchased a 4' x 6' reversible blackboard to be used in connection with the presentation of the sermon. We pray that God will bless us as we strive to use all available means to reach the lost.

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Reporting

The last month of 1961 was a good one for Hickory, insofar as the giving and attendance are concerned. Average contributions for the five Sundays in December were $192.10; this, of course, includes our Building Fund which is every fifth Sunday. Average attendance for the preaching services were 70. As at other places of worship many of our group were gone for the Christmas Holidays one week-end and Sunday. The first two Sundays of January have been very good. Contribution averaged $165.00, and attendance is on the upswing with 78 average. We are in a Personal Work Program and some of our members are being put to work. Already this month, two souls were added to the Body of Christ. In our business meeting of February 12, 1961, the men made definite plans to erect a new building in a more appropriate location. The value of our present property is enough to erect a new building when it is sold. Even though nothing was done toward riding ourselves of this property and purchasing a new lot, we did begin a Building Fund which now stands at $1,113.73. This is the contribution from only four of the five fifth Sundays of 1961. This year we hope to really do something in a more positive way towards securing a building lot. This will be our main discussion in our business meeting Sunday.

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Johnny C. Sewell
P. O. Box 250
Georgetown, S. C.

I am grateful for the opportunity of serving as News Editor of South Carolina for the Carolina Messenger of Truth. This column depends upon the churches of the Palmetto State for its news and we earnestly solicit your reports, which must reach me by the fifteenth of each month, and your bulletins, from which we seek to glean information of interest for our readers. Please! Let me receive news from you each month!

The Church of Christ, 2101 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S. C. is working to enlarge its library. The library fund is a means by which new books are to be purchased and the membership was asked to contribute extra for that project. This congregation already has good reading material on hand which is available to the membership at any time.

The Durant Avenue Church, North Charleston, S. C. is to support Billy R. Davidson, their minister, in a series of Gospel Meetings in Radford, Va. in the fall of 1962. R. C. Walker is the preacher in Radford. This will be the third meeting in which brother Davidson has worked in that city. The attendance averaged for this congregation, December 10-31, are as follows: Bible Classes--205, Morning Worship--255, Evening Worship--180, Contribu-

tion $351.52. This congregation sponsors the Herald of Truth each Lord ' s Day on T.V., Ch. 2. Those in this area can view it at 1 p.m. Recently this congregation donated $180.00 for use in benevolent work for the assistance of two needy families. This was over and above their other work of benevolence. Another example of their be n e v olence is the cutting of two trees into fire wood and then hauling this wood to the people. They have an active 'pantry-program'.

Royster Moss and family of Florence, S. C. made a combined vacation and work trip which began on December 24. Dallas Stephens spoke in the absence of Royster Moss on the evening of the 24th. Carl and Joyce McKelvy will visit the Florence church on March 19 and 20 to conduct a Teacher Training Workshop. The Mc Kelvey's are associated with David Lipscomb College and the Vultee Church of Christ , which congregation is sending them to Florence to conduct the Workshop. Letters to the churches of Christ in the surrounding areas have been mailed notifying them of this Teacher Train i n g Course. The Florence Church is stressing attendance increase, Bible Correspondence Course Work and the food pantry a great deal presently. Station WOLS in Florence has increased its power from 200 to 1,000 watts and, consequently, the broadcasts of the Florence church can be heard in many new surrounding towns now. Listen on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:45 and on Saturdays at 11:30. Construction involving the church office has produced much improvement in appearence to the study.

The church in Chester, S. C. averaged 33 in attendance on December 10, 17 and 24 with an average contribution for these three Sundays of $78.05. Postal cards have been placed in th e track rack so as to encourage the members to write the absentees. Seven different tracks have been purchased by the Chester church which are being mailed to interest people. A singing was scheduled for 3 p.m. on December 31. A new church directory has been completed by this congregation. A member of this congregation made a gift recently of $125 above the regular contribution with which to purchase 36 New Testaments, support an orphan home and the remainder was to go into the general fund. Tom Bolick is the evangelist working with the Chester church.

The Folly Beach Road Church in Charleston, S. C., of which Kenneth Inabinett is the minister, averaged 25 in Bible Study, 25 in morning worship and 23 in evening worship on December 3 & 10. Their Wednesday service was attended by an average of 22 on December 6 & 13.

The Church of Christ in New Ellenton, S. C. reached their Wednesday night goal of 35 recently. Bill Howell is the local minister. Repairs have been made on this congregation's building lately in order that room for another class may be available.

An afternoon singing was conducted by the Church of Christ in Warrenville at 3 p.m. on January 7.

The Riverside Park Church which meets at Sans Souci and Hester Streets in Charleston, S. C. has set February 4 as "C" Day. "C" is the Roman Numeral for 100 which they hope to have in Bible Classes that morning. It also represents Care as they hope the members will care enough to help in that effort; "C" stands for Come which it is hoped all will do; for Call because each is asked to call inviting others to attend; for Car which the members should use to bring others to services; for Church which is to be built up; for Christ by whom all things are possible. May this unique plan meet with every good success! A men's meeting is conducted each Tuesday evening by this congregation. On at least one Tuesday the men brought their wives and a visitation program was the plan for the evening. One couple stayed at the church building to keep the children so enabling the parents to participate in this activity more easily. This church recently provided six complete dinners to needy families as one act of its benevolence program. In November of 1961 the average contribution was $194 per Sunday or an average of $2.33 per person in attendance. For four recent Sundays including three in December the contribution averaged $199.50 per Lord's Day with 65 in Sunday School, 85 in morning worship, 46 in evening worship and 32 in mid-week meeting. Rawden L. Pullard is the minister of this congregation.

In Georgetown, S. C. the 1962 budget

calls for local contributions in the amount of $8,356.47 or an average of $160.70 per week. From each dollar contributed 25¢ goes for preaching, 11¢ for house rent, 12¢ for a bldg. payment, 3¢ for radio preaching, 3¢ for newspaper teaching, 4¢ for publishing the bulletin, 10¢ for bldg. upkeep and cleaning, 9¢ for educational supplies, 4¢ for benevolence (this is in addition to the food distribution), 6¢ for expansion of property, 10¢ for utilities, 1¢ for office supplies and 2¢ for miscellaneous. In December there was one baptism here and one placement of membership. The brother who moved into our community is the manager of the new radio station in this city. His wife, who is also a member of the church, is to move shortly to this city when a residence has been secured. One was restored on January 11. In 1961 there were sixteen baptisms, six confessions of wrong and three placements of membership here. Various committees with chairmen have been appointed to see after such things as the building and grounds, benevolence, public teaching, etc., and in this respect of the business of the church, things are running along more efficiently than ever before.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Poinsett Congregation
Harry L. Postlethwait, Reporting

The church has made some progress in 1961. For the year there have been ten baptisms, sixteen by transfer of membership, and four to be restored. This is a total of thirty for the year.

Our active membership now stands at seventy six.

Our contribution for Nov. averaged $220.00 per Sunday, and for the entire year, including the rest of December, we will average approximately $193.00 per Sunday.

The average attendance for Bible School has been between 80 and 90, and the attendance for the morning worship services has been between 80 and 100 each Lord's day. For our evening services about 60% of the membership returns.

Our budget for 1962 calls for $250.00 per Sunday, $13,000.00 for the year. This is $3,000.00 above what we did in 1961. $1500.00 of this budget has been earmarked for the "Teaching" program, most of which will probably be used in mission work among the colored people of Greenville.

Our program for 1962 calls for a VBS in the spring, two gospel meetings, along with an expanded Bible School program and a visitation program in the community. We are also making an effort to effect a scriptural organization of this congregation with elders and deacons. This we hope to accomplish in 1962.

GREENWOOD, S. C.
G. F. Gibbs, Reporting

I am at present working with the brethren at Greenwood and am hopeful of being an asset further to the work in the state. I shall be happy to serve as opportunity permits. The brethren in No. Charleston are having fellowship in our effort.

UNION, S. C.
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

We arrived in Union Jan. 2nd. to begin work with the Church here. We are very much encouraged by the interest shown on the part of the entire membership. And the outlook is good, for a very pleasant and profitable work. One was restored last Lord's day. We have two meetings planned for this year; one in April, in which I will do the preaching, and one in Sept., with Bro. U. A. Hall doing the preaching.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Reporting

We here at Judson feel that with the blessings of the Lord a reasonable amount of progress was made in 1961. Numerically speaking, we saw many increases when figures were compared with those of the former years. There were forty-eight responses to the Lord's invitation--fourteen were for baptism and thirty-four were confessions of wrong. Sixteen of these were during the Fogarty Brothers Tent Meeting. Our Bible Study attendance averaged 111 per week, and the morning worship service averaged 145 per week. The contribution averaged $186.44 per week. Too, we believe considerable progress was realized towards our new

church building. The size and design of the building were decided and the plans have been drawn up. Specifications are being listed and we expect to apply for a loan this month. Our present plan is to build the educational part of the building, and it will contain an auditorium which will be used for a few years. Our future plans are to build a large auditorium and join these two buildings together. When this is done, the temporary auditorium will be converted into class rooms. This first building will cost approximately $25,000.00. We are hoping that very soon we can sign a contract for construction to begin. Our prayers are that God will bless us, and all other Christians, and help everyone of us to make much progress in our work for Him in this new year.

EASLEY, S. C.
Mrs. Francis Gregory, Reporting.

We are planning a Spring meeting. Some where around the middle of May. Plans are not definite as of the exact date. Plans are to get Bro. Sharp of Conway, Ark., if the congregation there will agree to send him if possible. Also we are sorry to report that Bro. John Avants is sick. We were glad to have Jake Avants home for Christmas leave. Sister Jane Tankersly went to Alabama for Christmas. We greatly appreciate the help we are receiving in the form of speakers from Greenville.

THOMAS H. BURTON PASSES

We have learned of the passing of Bro. Thomas H. Burton , Dec. 25 in Nashville, Tenn.

In 1918 Bro. Burton became the first gospel preacher in South Carolina. From his efforts the church was established in Union. Since that time he had maintained a great interest in the work in S. C. and only last summer conducted a meeting with the Fairview congregation in Spartanburg. We are very thankful for his long life of service.

Another veteran preacher and friend G. F. Gibbs of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee assisted at the funeral.

WORSHIP REGULARLY EVERY WEEK !!

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Central Congregation
Virgil Richie, Reporting

During the last four months of 1961, there were ten baptisms here, including seven who were baptized during our meeting in September. Every phase of the work is encouraging. We have shown an increase in attendance at all services, and our contribution for the past three or four months has averaged around $200.00 per week. Also, our building has recently been redecorated and new song books have been purchased.

We hope, during 1962, to have new pews installed. We are increasing our program for 1962 by adding more benevolent and mission work. Once each month, the young men of the congregation have charge of the midweek service.

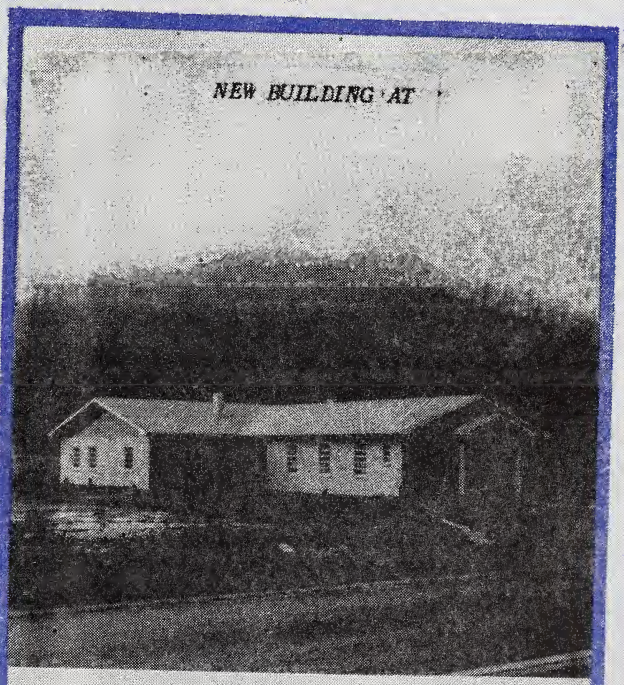
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR THE CAROLINAS
Johnny C. Sewell

It was recently called to my attention that Harding College is offering an extension program in Rome, Ga. in the Bible and related subjects. Since, I have learned that similar extension courses are taught in Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky and Arkansas. If these programs are available in other places, I thought, why could they not be brought to the Carolinas. So I wrote Brother Benson! Back came a most encouraging letter from Dr. W. B. West, Jr., excepts from which follow:

"We appreciate your interest in Harding College offering an extension program in some centrally located city in the Carolinas and are interested in doing so, if it seems wise all around.

"There are a few facts which you should know which may decide for you whether or not to try to work for us in developing a program somewhere in the Carolinas. In these (extension JCS) programs we have to charge $5.00 additional per tuition hour to that which we have charged in Memphis. This is to help in paying transportation and motel or hotel expense. Inasmuch as the Carolinas are probably further away than any program we have, it might be necessary to charge $7.50 additional, which would be $22.50 per semester hour. If there were sufficient number enrolled, we might keep it to additional $5.00, or $20.00 per

Carolina Messenger of Truth



NEW BUILDING AT

CHEROKEE, N.C.

CHESTER A. HUNNICUTT, MINISTER

March 1962

EDITORIAL

IN THE KNOW!!!

"In the know" is an expression meaning to have adequate information. We would like for you to be "in the know" about gospel papers and magazines.

They are not profit making. We had been persuaded of this and all our recent information and experience further proves it.

Ever since we can remember, our general impression was that Christian papers were non-profit. We had observed that all of them were subsidized by book stores, advertizement or private gifts. Only last summer we were told (by someone who was qualified to know) that the paper in the brotherhood with the largest circulation did not pay its own way. Early in February, the Messenger Staff heard, first hand, this cold fact again.

On February 6, the Messenger Staff met in Kinston, N. C. We were privileged to have Jim Bill McInteer, Business Manager of the 20th Century Christian, meeting with us. One of his first statments was, "I do not believe that any paper can exist without some sort of subsidy."

At first, the Messenger was subsidized by its founder, Mr. John Avants of Easley, S. C. More recently it has been subsidized by your present editor, a practice which he will not be able to continue much longer. In view of this, there is a growing interest to form an eleemosynary corporation with a board of directors who will be responsible for this subsidy.

WELCOME, ART EDITOR

We are happy to welcome Joe Costilow of Rocky Mount, N. C. as Art Editor for the Messenger. You have seen his fine work on the cover of the February and March issues. We are certain that this service will greatly improve the appearance of the paper.

THE SUPPLANTING POWER OF THE GOSPEL

Gordon L. Teffeteller
Durham, N. C.

The temptation to fritter away life in interests that are small and mean is the problem of each one of us. It is for this reason that Christ gave His sublime teaching urging us to replace our frailties, our notions, our sins, with strength, obedience, and purity. Nothing is more certain than that the gospel is a system of replacement.

Many times the people of God are intimidated. They allow themselves to be laughed out of a true position, or else through lack of fortitude let themselves be crowded out of contention by error. So long as the gospel remains "the power of God unto salvation," Rom. 1:16, and "living, and powerful, and sharper than a two-edged sword," Heb. 4:12, no faithful Christian will allow the truth to be supplanted by systems of error. To do so would be equivalent to a mouse prevailing over a lion, or a pop-gun over a cannon, or a cream-puff putting to rout a steam-roller. (see page 3)

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Mission Opportunities

Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.
Goldsboro, N. C.

Among the most important opportunities in North Carolina for beginning a new and needed work is the city of Henderson - northeast of Durham and Raleigh.

Henderson, County Seat of Vance County, has a 1960 population count of 13,000: nearby North Henderson has 2,000. Thus, Henderson is one of the largest towns in the Carolinas still without a church of Christ. Nearby Oxford has 7,000 people. We believe it is a mistake not to consider the opportunities afforded by this area.

Whoever chooses to begin here will do so with the assurance of at least some interest and some nucleus. Four members of the church now live and meet in a home at Louisburg, twenty miles to the south. One member lives at Oxford; and several--the exact number is not known--live in Henderson. Out of these it is almost a certainty that a working nucleus could be formed. The great need is for dedicated and talented leadership to mold a church out of these resourses.

Already some investigation has been made into the possibility of a new group meeting at the American Legion building. Gordon Teffeteller, of Durham, N. C. who can be contacted for further information and help) believes that a new church would begin with splendid potentials in every respect.

Henderson is located on major highway routes north and south (U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 85--new Federal - State highway). It is in a large area not now served by the Lord's church. Industry in Henderson, always an attractive feature to consider in beginning a new work, supports many prospective members. A new two - million dollar glass plant has recently been completed: Singer has a plant here: a number of mills and a candy factory are there. Many of these, including the well-known Harriet-Henderson Cotton Mills, have recently made costly expansions to their businesses.

Henderson is an ideal place to begin a new church of Christ. It has accessibility; population; an expanding industry; good schools. It needs the church and is in an area needing the church --badly. And, it offers a nucleus with which to begin.

An ideal approach would be to visit Henderson--elders and preachers interested in a Stateside mission work note. There are preachers and men in North Carolina who will host you if you come. If you know of a church or a man who is looking for a good place to locate, turn them in the direction of this place--Henderson, North Carolina. There, there are need and opportunity; resources and potential.

SUPPLANTING POWER (cont'd)

The cry of New Testament Christianity is restoration of the church as it was originally in apostolic times. It is a fact that the church can exist today as at the beginning, with its King in heaven and its members on earth, due to the principle of, "Seed-produces-after-its-own-kind," Lk. 8:11. It is a fact that religious error abounds today so that we may exclaim with Paul, "I marvel that ye are so quickly removing from him that called you in the grace of Christ unto a different gospel; which is not another gospel: only there are some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." Gal. 1:6,7.

The need is plain: In our day, when men are chided for taking a stand for God's truth, when we are told to veiw religious division "with an air of good-natured tolerance in an era of good feeling," the fact remains that the chief feature of the gospel is its replacement of all competitive systems and all "reasonable facsimiles" of the gospel plan with pure, unadulterated Christianity.

THE GOSPEL SUPPLANTS JUDAISM

Moses' law was utterly replaced by Christ's covenant. "He taketh away the

(see page 5)

IS DANCING A HEALTHFUL EXERCISE???

Jesse Condra
Pantego, N. C.

To make a serious reply to this deceptive, deceitful and empty pretence is easy to all serious thinking people. Seeing people who cannot walk two or three blocks to the house of God, or ride a few miles in an automobile, especially if the weather is a little unpleasant, who can dance till midnight for amusement, "speaking of its being healthful," is ridiculous to the extreme. Visiting the poor, sick, and distressed with words of encouragement and necessities of life would be more healthful and leave far less remorse of conscience. "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good." (I Thessalonians 5:21)

Galatians 5:19-21, "Now the works of the flesh are manifest which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." The definition of the word "revelling," and the original word, komos, which it represents, denote that dancing for pleasure, amusement with eating and drinking and they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. "Such like" is revelling and includes plays of folly.

Dancing is worldly and fleshly in its whole tendency and all its effects upon people who engage in it. There is nothing in it to elevate, enoble or purify the heart or life of Christians. No child of God was ever led to be more spiritual minded or more devoted to Christ in any sense in the world. There is emphatically no sense in which a Christian or any other person can be brought nearer to God, Christ, to holiness or heaven by it.

Dancing is not connected with the will of God nor does it belong to godliness. It never leads anyone to love Christ more nor to do any more service to God. It never has, nor ever will, give anyone a cleaner, purer or a more virtuous life. It never led any Christian to be a more devoted and faithful member of the church. It has never been any help to any child of God in denying the lusts of the flesh. No devout child of God believes that dancing is in harmony with the will of God or that it is any credit to any church on earth for its members to dance. We never hear any dancing member advocate dancing as a Christian duty or any sort of good work or that it will help to take them to heaven. The very best they present in support of it is to say they don't see any harm in it, and in saying that much they are trying to blind and deceive themselves. One young lady who strongly contended for dancing when asked if she would be willing to go from the dance floor to the judgment seat said, "No indeed! I would want to pray a long time before going to the judgment seat." This surely shows that even those who engage in the dance recognize the sin of it.

The truth of the matter is that dancing is a work of the flesh and not a fruit of the spirit. Read Galatians 5:19-23. Any church or school that encourages such a thing is helping to carry its members down the broad road to ruin instead of a heavenly home. No man or woman noted for piety ever dances or in any way encourages it. The same goes for immodest dress such as shorts and halters. Read Genesis 3:7, 21; Luke 8:26-39; I Timothy 2:9. Also drunkenness. Galatians 5:19-21; Revelation 21:3.

PLEASE LET US KNOW

Please let us know when you move. We want you to receive each copy of the Messenger... Postal rates have increased from 2¢ to 10 on each paper returned to us. So please let us know when you move.



GREENVILLE, S. C. - The Judson Church of Christ broke the ground on February 11th for their new church building which will be located on Edgewood Drive, one block off the new 29 Highway South. Participating in the ground breaking was the building committee. The brethren left to right are: Charles Hicks, Carl Lindsey, Ernest Thigpen, Jimmy Tripp and Dale McDaniel. The new building will contain an auditorium and eight class rooms and should be completed some time before June.

SUPPLANTING POWER (cont'd)

first that he might establish the second." Heb. 10:9. This is not to say that Christ did not incorporate into His covenant many principles announced by Moses; but rather points out that Moses' law, including the ten commandments, is no more binding than the Articles of Confederation adopted as the law of the land in 1781, which was replaced by the Constitution on the first Wednesday in March, 1789. Thus, the "spirit" of the gospel replaces the "letter" of the law; the "ministration of the Spirit" replaces the "ministration of death" of the law, which was "written on stones" (the ten commandments). The law "passed away," the new covenant "remains." See II Cor. 3. This truth removes forever the claims of the Sabbatarians.

THE PLAN OF SALVATION SUPPLANTS RELIANCE ON WORKS

He who trusts in his good deeds, whether those of the law, Romans 3:20, or works of morality alone, stand on unsafe ground. Salavation is by "grace through faith." Eph. 2:8; a faith which "works by love," Gal. 5:6. "For ye are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ." Gal. 3:26, 27. The credit for salvation is not in the man who runs, but in Christ who provides the path for our feet.

RIGHTEOUSNESS SUPPLANTS WORLDLINESS

The gospel calls us to be pure men, for without being holy no man can see God. It replaces lust with self-control; profanity with prayer; pride with humility; it replaces dancing feet with "feet that carry glad tidings of good things" to the lost. The test of the presence of an acid is litmus paper. The test of the presence of Christ in our lives is the good fruits the lives bear. True gospel men attend worship services for the pure joy of it. Every day is a celebration for them. They rejoice in God.

(continued next month)

News

NORTH CAROLINA
NEWS, NOTES & 'NOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

From among the happenings known to me I have no difficulty in selecting the meeting here at Kinston as the big news of February, 1962. The preaching of the gospel by Jim Bill McInteer greatly edified the church in Kinston and in the surrounding area. Over 200 brethren representing all 15 congregations from Durham to the coast came at some time during the week. Some 60 visitors came from this community. The attendance high was 136, with a nightly average of 109. Seven were baptized.

A staff meeting of the Carolina Messenger of Truth was held on Tuesday during McInteer's meeting. Brethren from Greenville (S. C.) Georgetown, and Statesville who came for the staff meeting also attended services the night before.

The work at Greenville, N. C. moves forward with two baptisms and plans to purchase property very soon. Mannon continues to conduct Bible Study at the Cedar Grove Community church near Pactolus, N. C. and hopes shortly to arrange to preach there on Sunday afternoons. March 19-23 is tentative date of Gospel meeting with Garland Elkins of Oak Ridge, Tenn. preaching. FLASH! on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 18, six members of the Cedar Grove church were baptized into the Lord's church by Bro. Mannon of Greenville.

Summaries of last year's work are just now drifting in from some places. South Fork in Winston-Salem showed an average attendance of 154 and contribution of $405. Additions totaled 33 including 13 baptisms. Five elders & seven deacons were appointed. Mission work was supported in Lexington, N. C. and Aberdeen, N. C.

January averages at Statesville were 162 and 135 for worship and Bible Study.

In Raleigh, the figures were 177 and 150 with $346 contribution.

The Plaza church in Charlotte sent out a very attractive "Progress Report" on 1961 activities. They reported 52 responses (baptisms, restorations and new members) a 174 average attendance which was a 5% increase over 1960, an average contribution of $378, which was a 5% decrease from the previous year. Bro. Charles E. Gentry of Smithville, Tenn. has been invited to move to Charlotte to labor with the Plaza church. He is expected to begin his work there on March 11. We welcome him and his family to the Carolina mission field.

From Marion, N. C. a summary of 1961 reveals 4 baptisms with average attendance of 51 and average contribution of $51.69. Bro. Norwood states that this is the only congregation known to him which has 100% attendance of all men at the business meetings. On Jan. 14 a young couple were baptized after one year's study in their home.

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Reporting

In our last business meeting, Feb. 4, it was decided that an effort should be made to purchase a lot on Hwy. 70 between Hickory and Conover. We have found two desireable lots, big enough for a preacher's home and a church building. We will decide on this in our business meeting Feb. 18.

Thus far in February there has been one baptism and two restorations. We broke our record in attendance Feb 4th with 93 present for worship.

LENOIR, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Reporting

More than a year now I have had the privilege of teaching the adult Bible class on Wednesday evenings at Lenoir, N. C. They have been without a full-time preacher for quite some time. But recently the brethren at Lenoir asked Carley Welborn of Morganton, N. C. to work with them in order to have more time with the work there. For awhile yet he will continue working his regular hours at a chain grocery store in Morganton until the church is able to support him on a full-time basis. A church in Texas is helping the work here $75.00 monthly financially. The work is coming along nicely and Brother Welborn is doing a excellent job. Interest is growing and attendance and contributions are increasing.

DURHAM, N. C.
Gordon L. Teffeteller, Reporting

Following one conversion in January, membership of the Watts Street church stands at 85, though some half-dozen are inactive. The 1962 budget calls for $200 each week, but we fell short during January. New works as well as a fund for air-conditioning have begun. The church has sponsored for years a broadcast on the powerful CBS station, WDNC, Sundays at 9:15, choice time considering that it follows the CBS news.

TRYON, N. C.
Elton English, Reporting

The work in Tryon is progressing nicely, and we have surely enjoyed our first month with this congregation. The averages in January were: 27 for morning worship and $31.02 contribution. We had our best day, Feb. 4th, when 43 came together and contributed $43.25. 29 came back for the evening service.

Bro. Carl Lancaster of Greenville, South Carolina, will do the preaching in a series of gospel meetings here April 16th through 22nd. We shall meet nightly at 7:45.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Virgil Hale, Reporting
P. O. Box 126

On January 4th I moved from Wilson to Whiteville to begin full time work with the church here. Since the beginning of the congregation in Whiteville, different brethren had been driving over to preach on Sunday afternoon. Brother Petree was the last to have this part in the work, driving from Fayetteville each week. Bro. Sewell, Brother Petree, and all the rest who have had a part in the work here are to be commended for their interest and support. We now meet on Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night. Attendance and contribution have increased considerably. Our highest attendance records for the month of January were, 57 on Sunday morning, 56 on Sunday night, and 49 on Wednesday night. Our largest contribution was $68.10. We are grateful for this increase, and hope and pray that it is only the beginning of what is yet to come. Arrangements have been made to purchase the lot adjoining the present property.

If you know of people in this area that we can contact, please let us know.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
W. Wendover Ave. Congregation
Paul E. Sikes, Reporting

We are now engaged in conducting a special series of classes for the men. We are using The Men's Training Class by John D. Cox. The men meet during our Wednesday night classes.

Our Spring Meeting will be April 8-15. Services on Sundays will be at 7 P. M. Other night services will be 7:30 P. M. The speaker will be Donald Ray Kittrell of Lafayette, Tennessee.

Thirty-one are now taking the correspondence course FOUNDATION FACTS FOR SALVATION by Ivan Stewart.

The men of the congregation meet once a month for a Saturday morning dutch-it-yourself breakfast.

The colored congregation at Ireland Street still needs more financial assistance. The elders here will supply additional information about this work upon request.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton W. Elkins, Reporting

Our first gospel meeting of the year will be held March 18-25 with Brother Cecil N. Richardson of Nashville, preaching. If our attendance holds its present peak, we will need more room and seats when the tourist seasons opens this summer. We meet in a home purchased for use as a combination preacher's home and meeting place.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Several of our Bible teachers attended the Teacher Training Program at Winston-Salem, held Feb. 12-15 each evening. Bro. Fred Mosley, and Sis. Warder K. Novak presented some very interesting and informative lessons.

Sickness in the congregation here

has brought the attendance average way down during the first two months of the year, consequently it is hard to hold our budget of $120.00 weekly contribution. Practically every family has been affected by the flu, and many are still sick.

One Sunday out of each month our preacher exchanges pulpits with some other preacher in this area. We enjoy this and it affords us an opportunity to hear other speakers.

Our spring meeting and Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 17-24. Bro. David Dymacek of Bloomington, Ill. will be the speaker.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Abilene Congregation
J. Farris Baird, Reporting

The program for the CAROLINA LECTURES has been made out. We are trying to give each of the brethren the time that is most convenient for them. Some have been rather slow about answering and we are in the process now of sending out the topics for them to speak on. We might suggest that if any of the brethren have books, charts, and etc. that they would like to sell, swap with others at the LECTURES, Abilene will provide a room where they can be displayed. I am interested in back numbers of the GOSPEL ADVOCATE, FIRM FOUNDATION, and other periodicals published by the brethren. I have quite a collection (mostly ADVOCATES) that I will be glad to share with some of the brethren who are interested in collecting them. We feel that we are extra fortunate in that Bro. Leslie G. Thomas has agreed to speak on the collecting, organizing, and arrangement for sermon outlines Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Dilworth Congregation
E. R. Bowlin, Reporting

After a series of sermons delivered by Sam Norman, our minister, on the qualifications and selection of elders and deacons, on Jan. 28th, one additional elder was ordained, and two deacons were selected.

This gives the Dilworth church three elders: J. Clayton Little, Lawrence E. Holder, Jr., and E. Ralph Bowlin, Sr. The deacons are: Weldon B. Willard, and John Parker. Since Jan. 21st the radio program, Know Your Bible, is now a 30 minute program. From 9 to 9:30 Sunday morning, over radio station, WAYS, 610 K.C. This program consists of six Bible questions, sent in by our listeners, being answered by our panel selected for each program from the membership, or by some visiting minister. After which we have a 10 minute lesson. So far we have had wonderful co-operation from all the men participating on the program. On Feb. 4th, one young man obeyed his Lord in baptism. When in Charlotte worship with us.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray Fullerton, Reporting

The church at Goldsboro conducted an unusual "Christian Growth" meeting Jan. 28- Feb. 2 with J. D. Parker, Winston-Salem, preaching. Every sermon was directed to members of the church. We recommend such efforts for the good they can do. Support by neighboring congregations was excellent. Two identified themselves; one sought prayers of the church. J. D. Parker is loved and respected by those who know him.

The church has brought a lawsuit against the North River Fire Ins. Co. of New York for breach of contract when it refused after nine months to pay a claim for damages suffered in a fire in December, 1960. The action has not gone yet to court.

In the past six months we have lost several active member - families by transfer and their loss has not yet been offset by incoming personnel. Attendance and contribution are down; but we hope to average in 1962 at least $250.00 weekly, our new budget.

Our next meeting is in May with George W. Bailey, Abilene, Texas, preaching.

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Johnny C. Sewell
P. O. Box 250
Georgetown, S. C.

As News Editor for South Carolina, I take this means of expressing my appreciation to the congregations in this

state which have submitted news reports for publication in this periodical. We hope that more congregations will send their news reports to me by the 15th. each month that your work may receive a wider publicity. The very things you are doing may well encourage another congregation to enlarge their program of work and so accomplish a great deal more good. In turn, you may receive beneficial suggestions from the reports from other congregations.

Have you thought about "Christian Education for the Carolinas"? You recall in the last issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth it was announced that Harding College is willing to offer an extension program in some centrally located city in the Carolinas if sufficient students can be enrolled. The courses in this program are in the Bible and related subjects. Work can be taken on the graduate or under-graduate level. Several thus far have expressed an interest in this work and Charlotte, No. Carolina appears to be the city of choice for the offering of this course of study. Are you interested in furthering your education in the fields of Bible and related areas? If so, please advise us immediately. Dr. W. B. West, Jr. has stated that such a course could begin next September. Twenty to twenty-five students are needed. Will you be one of these? If you have further questions on this matter please write me and I shall refer them to Dr. West.

JOHN R. SENN reports that two were baptized during January in Duncan. The attendance averages eighty for worship with contribution of $153.00 per week in January. On March 18 a singing is to be conducted at 3:00 in the afternoon. The spring series of meetings at Duncan will be in progress March 18-25 with services each evening at 7:30. HILTON S. HARNER of Union, S.C. will be the visiting evangelist.

ROYSTER MOSS of Florence, S. C. will be speaker on "Meditation", a public servic feature of WBTW-TV, Channel 8, 12:30 P.M. the week of February 19. The Florence church is to conduct a Teacher Training series March 19 and 20 with CARL McKELVEY. Congregations in North and South Carolina are urged to avail themselves of this educational opportunity. Bro. McKelvey is on the faculty of David Lipscomb College and is Educational Director with the Vultee Church of Nashville. The first session will begin at 7:30 on March 19 with the subject, "God's Plan is Educational." The Tuesday schedule will involve such items as, "Teaching Children", "Teaching Young People," "Teaching Adults." The evening session on March 20 will deal with the topic, "Go Ye Therefore and Teach." A tour of the Florence Azalea Trail is a feature for the evening of March 20. Lodging will be supplied by the Florence congregation for those traveling from a distance.

The New Ellenton church will conduct a series of meetings March 11-18 with JOHNNY C. SEWELL of Georgetown, S.C. as the visiting evangelist. The highest attendance reached during January was fifty-two for Morning Worship. The highest contribution was $131.78 with an average of $104.07. The church membership was increased recently by six who, moving into town, placed membership with this congregation.

The Durant Avenue Congregation in North Charleston averaged 204 in Bible Classes, 244 in Morning Worship and 171 in Evening Worship during January. The average contribution was $409.37. HAROLD SCOTT of Statesville, N. C. will preach a series of meetings with this church April 15-22. JIMMY DORRIS of Barnewell, S.C. is to preach in a fall meeting with the Durant Avenue church. Recently there were three baptisms and four to place membership at Durant Ave. This fine church decided to send $50 per month to Greenwood, S. C. toward support of a preacher in that city, $50.00 per month to the Folley Beach church in Charleston to help in constructing their new building and $25 per month to the colored church in Charleston continues, making a total of $125.00 per month utilized in mission work. BILLY R. DAVIDSON wrote a very nice article in their bulletin regarding the work of the Carolina Messenger of Truth, which is deeply appreciated.

We take this opportunity to encourage all the congregations to subscribe to the Carolina Messenger of Truth. It is published on a non-profit basis simply with a desire to do good. We solicit your help in this under-taking.

TOM BOLICK of Chester reports one baptism recently. Their Bible Class arrangement has been revised recently. The contribution averages $80.00 per Sunday with forty in attendance.

The most recent figures available

from the Central Church of Christ in Spartanburg indicates an average Bible School attendance of eighty-seven, an average Morning Worship attendance of 101, an average Evening attendance of fifty-three, and an average Wednesday Evening attendance of fifty-four with a contribution of $187.00 per Sunday. VIRGIL RICHIE is the local minister.

The West Columbia Church of Christ, of which W. C. GANTT is the minister, averages $203.97 per Sunday in contributions. The average Sunday Morning Worship attendance is 108. On Sunday evenings the average attendance is 79 and on Wednesday the average is 68.

The most recent bulletins of the Riverside Park church in Charleston, S. C. mentioned two placing membership and one restoration. RAMEY L. BULLARD is the minister of this congregation.

The church in Georgetown, S.C. will be in need of a full time minister as of June 1. The church enjoys harmony. The prospects for growth are very excellent. Living conditions and support for a preacher are very adequate. Anyone interested in being considered for this work should write: Church of Christ, P.O. Box 250, Georgetown, S.C. One was restored here recently. Paul H. Tucker, minister of the Wingate church in Nashville, will be in Georgetown for a Gospel Meeting April 9-15. Bob Plunket of Tuscumbia, Alabama will preach in an October Meeting in Georgetown.

GREENWOOD, S. C.
G. F. Gibbs, Reporting

Everyone seems to be happy and the work is moving as usual. Visitors along encourage us - physical improvements on lot and in building help. Hamstrand employees from Fla. help out. Hope to do more to promote colored work.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Judson Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Reporting

We have had four responses to the invitation of Christ this month, two for baptism and two to be restored to fellowship. Besides this good news, we rejoice over some additional good news of a more physical nature. Things have been developing rather rapidly these past few weeks and today, February 15th, marks the beginning of the actual construction of our new church building. Enabling us to sign the contract to build were the sale of the dwelling house owned by the church and the approval of our loan. The ground breaking services were last Sunday afternoon. This new building will be 124 feet in length and 34 feet wide and will contain an auditorium and eight class rooms. We are expecting the building to be finished by June or before, depending on the weather. We are most thankful to the Lord for His many blessings upon our efforts.

ROCK HILL, S. C.
H. Grady Slatton, Reporting

After eighteen months work with the Rock Hill congregation Bro. Al Frakes has decided to relocate in the Memphis, Tenn. area. The work has progressed here with Sunday morning attendance nearing the 100 mark and contributions exceeding $150 weekly. Sunday evening and Wednesday evening services also reflect good interest with a high percentage of attendance. The men of the congregation will do the teaching from the pulpit until a successor is named.

EASLEY, S. C.
Mrs. Francis Gregory, Reporting

We welcome a new member into our midst, Sister Betty Flemmons, from Tenn. Our attendance on Sunday morning is holding up pretty good but Sunday night and Wednesday night attendance is very poor.

UNION, S. C.
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

Since the first of the year, seven have confessed sins. There has been a steady increase in attendance. We are having almost as many for the night services as for the morning. Yesterday we had 104 for Bible study. The elders have a fine program of work planned for this year, and all the congregation seem willing to work to carry out the program as planned. Our budget for 1962 calls for a weekly

contribution average of $223.47. On Sunday afternoon, every member that is absent from the morning service, is visited by two or more from the congregation, unless they are known to be out of the city. We can already see great results from this work.

CHESTER, S. C.
Tom Bolick, Reporting

The Chester church has made progress thus far in the new year and we are hoping for substantial growth. We had one baptism during the month of Jan. All departments showed an improved average with an average of 37 for Bible Study and 38 for Morning Worship. Our Spring Meeting is tentatively set for the last week in March with Bro. Wayne Smith of Elizabethton, Tenn. filling the pulpit.

At Chester, the fine cooperation of Bro. Al Frakes who has moved from Rock Hill to Memphis, Tenn. will be missed.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl E. Lancaster, Reporting

During 1961 10 were baptized. Averages were 96 for Bible Study, 121 for morning worship & $159.45 contribution.

5 have been restored in the past four weeks. A new record was set with 114 present at mid-week Bible study recently. Prospects appear most encouraging.

Harold Scott of Statesville is scheduled for a meeting here Mar. 26-Apr. 1.

CAROLINA CLUB
DAVID LIPSCOMB COLLEGE
Benny Burns, Reporting

During the session of 1957-58, the students of David Lipscomb College from North and South Carolina organized the Carolina Club. Members that year were Wilson Burton, President; Leatha Patton, Secretary; Tony Forrest, Vice president; June Watson, Treasurer; Joe Buchanan; Larry Buchanan; Donald Danner; Lynda Ketner; Wally Beasley; Kennith Capps; Janie Gregory; Duke Gregory; Tom Bolick; Rachel Burns; Nancy Fowlkes; and Silas Oglesby.

The club was organized for the purpose of creating an interest and a desire in others from our states to attend this college, for the purpose of providing fellowship among ourselves, and for the purpose of creating an interest in mission work in the Carolinas.

The club has progressed since its beginning in 1957-58; it has proved effective in Christian fellowship and has promoted a large amount of interest to those in prospect of attending Lipscomb.

This year we have enrolled at Lipscomb twenty-five or thirty from the two Carolinas. The more active members are: Mike Caudle and Windell Burton, Albemarle; Floyd Kirby, Greensboro; Richard Hunnicutt, Cherokee; Carolyn Cherry, Raleigh; Carolyn Tesh, Winston-Salem; Janie Burns, Valdese; Eddie Morse, Rockingham; Rayburn Adcock, Aiken; Peggy Pratt, Mt. Pleasant; Wanda Walden, N. Augusta; Benny Burns, President, Valdese; Joe Buchanan, Vice President, Cullowhee; Jeanie Buchanan, Secretary, Cullowhee; James Orr, Treasurer; and Dixon Settle, Rockingham.

During the fall quarter the members participated in an outing at a local park and before final exams a Christmas party at the Christian Recreation Center near Vanderbilt. This quarter is a busy one, and our plans include a banquet, Mar. 2, at a well known restaurant in Nashville. Also we hope to send an article to the Carolina Messenger once a quarter and mail letters to prospective students. Our purpose in such activities is to encourage you, the Christians in the Carolinas.

MOORE, S. C.
U. A. Hall, Reporting

After six and a half years of very pleasant work with the church at Moore I am, with mixed emotions, moving to east Tennessee the first of April this year.

Bro. Jerry Senn has promised to work with the brethren here when I leave. I am sure he will do a great work for the Lord there.

Last Sunday four were restored at Moore. Please pray for me and for the work at Moore.

# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #

GOSPEL MEETING

CHURCH OF CHRIST

DUNCAN, S. C.

(One Mile from Duncan on Lyman-Reidville Road)

MAR. 18th. — MAR. 25th.

– EACH EVENING–7:30 –



MILTON S. PARKER

EVANGELIST

Milton S. Parker

OF UNION, S. C.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

MARCH 18TH. – 3 P.M.

You Are Cordially Invited To Attend

Carolina

MESSENGER OF TRUTH



APRIL 1962

Carolina Bible Camp

MOVING TO THE MOUNTAINS

C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, N. C.

The Board of Directors of Carolina Bible Camp recently learned that the Charlotte Y. M. C. A. will not conclude their activities at the Fresh Air Camp this year in time for us to operate there.

After six wonderful years at the beautiful Fresh Air Camp, it is only natural that all of us feel a keen disappointment in not being able to return this year.

We believe it is the general opinion of Christians in the Carolinas that Carolina Bible Camp has been rendering a valuable service, and that it would be very unfortunate not to operate in 1962.

The Directors of the camp not only believe that it should operate this year, but that plans should be made for a bigger and better camp in the future. We are now thinking in terms of a camp site of our own which can be used anytime we desire. This will require much planning and financial backing. Until the time comes when we can build our own camp site, we must seek to find other available camps. After searching and investigating, we are now able to make some definite announcements regarding the 1962 Camp.

To the mountains we are moving, and we believe that the campers and staff will love it. Arrangements have been made with the Winston-Salem Y. M. C. A. for Carolina Bible Camp to operate at the John W. Hanes Memorial Camp, August 12-25.

Camp Hanes is located 23 miles northwest of Winston-Salem at the foot of the Sauratown Mountains. Its 27 buildings, two lakes and 327 acres of wooded terrain make it an ideal camp site.

All of the camp buildings are closer together than at the Fresh Air Camp. We think the campers will appreciate not having to walk so far from the dining hall to the cabin area. The dining hall is only three years old and was built at a cost of $65,000. It is large enough to take care of at least three hundred campers. Underneath the dining hall are two very nice rooms suitable for worship assemblies and other camp activities.

The rugged Sauratown Mountains, reaching high into the sky immediately behind the camp plus the beautiful lakes in front, provide a setting of real peace and inspiration. In between the mountains and the lake, imagine a religious service conducted in the amphitheater! Can't you close your eyes and almost hear the beautiful singing now?

Sauratown Mountains were named for the Saura tribe of Indians who at one time lived and hunted in that locality. Some of the peaks-Moore's Knob and Hanging Rock in particular-rise to an elevation of approximately 2,600 feet.

The Board of Directors consider themselves most fortunate in being able to se-

(see page 3)

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
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Editorial and publication staff:
Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Johnny Sewell, S. C. News Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP (cont'd)

cure the use of Camp Hanes. We are mindful of the fact that the location will mean a few more miles of driving for several of the campers: this we regret. However, we are confident that those of you who have been to camp in the past are so sold on Carolina Bible Camp that you will not complain because you may have to drive a few more miles. We look forward to making this, our seventh year, the best yet for Carolina Bible Camp. We are expecting to see you there. More information and applications will be coming within a few weeks.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Ray D. Fullerton, Jr.

An unusual mission opportunity exists in a vast area of Eastern N. C. where many local residents think of the churches of Christ as being "strong." Actually, the church is weaker here than in most other areas of the Carolinas.

The churches in this area--in the counties bordering the Atlantic from Va. to Wilmington--use the instrument of music in their worship and sometimes allow other practices unknown to the N. T. A few historical notes might be in order.

The Restoration Movement had part of its real beginning on Tarheel soil--James O'Kelley preached the gospel here and established the first church in 1792. Alexander and Thomas Campbell preached in N. C. --church records indicate they preached in Kinston. During this period the church grew exceedingly strong: but when it digressed, virtually all the churches left the faith and became affiliated with the Disciples of Christ and their United Missionary Society.

Some 15 years ago, under the leadership of conservative men who rebelled at the liberalism of the Disciples churches and especially of their college at Wilson, Atlantic Christian College, about 70 of these churches withdrew from the U. C. M. S. They then formed a "little U. C. M. S.," adopted the same boundaries they had had in the N. C. branch of the U. C. M. S., elected officials, and began meeting regularly in their new "Roanoke District." Some of these churches apparently changed their names to "church of Christ," and most dropped many of the obligations they had had to the parent organization which they considered sinful.

They employed a District Evangelist, Mr. George W. Bondurant. After he arrived on the scene, he sensed a lack of fidelity to the principles of the Restoration Movement, and he shortly led over half of these churches into another withdrawal: they withdrew themselves from the newly-formed Roanoke District and became independent churches: they do not meet in "Convention" as do the others. He organized a little Bible college, the Roanoke Bible College, at Elizabeth City, N. C. He is esteemed highly in this area, is regarded as the leader of the movement. He insists the only name of the church is "Church of Christ," and conducts a radio program regularly, "The Church of Christ Program," using various instrumental arrangements, including bells and chimes.

Mr. Bondurant is a scholar, a likeable man. His little college, housed amidst several old residences, has some sixty students. One of the chief points of doctrine they learn is the defense of the instrument of music in worship.

Besides these groups -- the Disciples, the conservatives who withdrew, and the conservative conservatives who withdrew from them—there are several other groups each of which either uses the instrument or practices some other doctrine peculiar to them. One such group is under the leadership of men who are "dedicated to the restoration of the N. T. church" but who variously oppose located preachers, Bible schools, the use of the name "church of Christ," etc.

Elizabeth City, with no true church, but with "headquarters" for a conservative but digressive group, has a population of 15,000. This area represents a striking challenge and you are urged to consider it.

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A "PEACE CORPS" FOR THE LORD?

C. E. Mannon
Greenville, N. C.

While many young men and women are volunteering to serve in America's peace corps to undeveloped countries in an effort to sell the American way of life, why can't we have a peace corps for the Lord? One of the surest ways to establish the Lord's church in an area where there are no congregations nearby is to move into the area and begin an agressive program of work. Of course, more than the preacher and his family is to be desired. These families will be those having some business, profession, vocation, or trade from which they may expect to gain a livelihood as they pioneer to establish the Lord's church. These opportunities present a real callenge, and the rewards in so grea a venture of faith are unspeakable.

Just such an opportunity to do something special for the Lord is now awaiting those having ability to teach in various fields at the college level. In Greenville, N. C., where the church has been meeting for six months, East Carolina College is located, serving over 5,000 students. Right now, the need exists for at least seventeen new teachers for the coming year. These include: 1 Clinical Psychologist, Ph. D; 1 Psychology Instructor, M. A.; 2 Math Instructors, M. A.; 2 English Instructors, M. A.; 2 Business Instructors, M. A.; 1 Business and Economics Professor, Ph. D.: 1 Physics Professor, Ph. D.; 3 Elementary Education Professors (2 with Ph. D.: 1 with M. A.); 2 Library Science Instructors, M. A. (one with 30 hrs. in Library Science; one to travel frequently with bookmobile); 3 Foreign Language Instructors, M. A. (native majors in Spanish, French and German preferred).

With the nearest New Testament church being 30 miles away, there is a desperate need for a strong church in Greenville. More and more this city is becoming the hub for east North Carolina. Those Christians prepared to fill these vacancies, or supply other needs, can play a major role in the growth of the Lord's church in an area too long neglected. Workers for the Lord are wanted and needed. Here is your challenge to serve the Lord in an unusual way while continuing your chosen field of work. Greenville is a friendly city to which many have come from afar to make their home. Further information may be obtained by writing your respective department head at the college, the Chamber of Commerce, or to me. (C. E. Mannon, Box 565, Greenville, N. C.) Where the fields are white unto harvest and laborers are few and far between, won't you "come over and help us!"

SUPPLANTING POWER OF THE GOSPEL

(continued from last month)

Gordon L. Teffeteller
Durham, N. C.

THE PURE KINGDOM SUPPLANTS MAN-MADE RELIGION

The gospel is God-made and Spirit-revealed. As such it will break in pieces man-made systems. Most of us Americans have been taught a respect for "religion." It is widely held that if one holds some form of "religion," even though it is evidently contradictory to the Bible, it is all right. This type reasoning would turn pyrite (fool's gold) into pure gold; a counterfeiter's dollar would be worth 100 cents as is the Treasury-printed bill. This is not only poor logic, but it is dangerous. Jesus said, "In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrine the precepts of men," Matt. 15:9. Paul rejoins, "There is one body and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism," Eph. 4:4,5. These statements will brook no trifling.

A SUPPLANTED LIFE

Sound a trumpet and tell all that Christianity replaces all error with a new affection--absolute fidelity to Jesus our Saviour. One of the most heartening signs of our times is revivified interest in Bible study, and penitent souls longing for salvation. Bow the knee to King Jesus! Let His way crowd out all that displeases Him. Serve Him well; imbibe His promise; and live, with a capital L!



THE ABILENE CHURCH BUILDING - COMPLETED IN 1957

PLACE OF THE LECTURES

The 1962 Carolina Lectures will be held at the Abilene congregation which is five miles east of Statesville, N. C. on Highway 64. The dates are April 2-6. (See complete schedule on pages 6 and 7).

The Abilene congregation began meeting in Vance Schoolhouse, Iredell County, Statesville, N. C. in 1914. Founders of the church were twin brothers, John and Walter Carter. Bro. Milas Foster served as first minister.

In 1917 the church changed its meeting place to Farmer's Union Hall, Statesville, N. C. In 1918 a building was erected on property donated by John Carter and his wife at the location of the present building. Materials and labor were donated by members of the congregation. Other early ministers were Cal Mc Campbell, Thetus Pritchard, Burrell Prince and Winston Tynes. In 1940 the church building was remodeled and enlarged. In 1949 the Abilene church began a new congregation at Broad St. in Statesville. They first met in the American Legion building and later moved into their present building.

The first service in the present Abilene building was held May 26, 1957. A large portion of the labor and materials were again donated by members of the congregation. Bro. Brown Kinnard was the minister working at Abilene when the present building was completed. Other preachers who have worked at Abilene are Gene Arnold, Ross Saunders, Wayman Love, Orville Midyett, Tom Bolick (part time) and J. Farris Baird (present minister).

Another great work was begun in 1961 when the Abilene congregation joined with the Broad St. congregation to begin the work in Taylorsville, N. C. They are now meeting in the Community Building with Tony Forrest serving as full-time minister. The Abilene and Broad St. congregations are jointly financing the work there.

Please notify us when you move! Postage has increased to 10¢ on each copy returned to us--so remember!

PROGRAM FOR T

Apr

THEME: The New Life in Christ

	Monday	Tuesday	
9:30-10:00	Morning devotional and the announcements for the		
10:00 - 11:00		The New Life and Duty Clayton Winters	N. mor
11:00 - 12:00		Carolina Bible Camp Johnny Sewell Carolina Messenger Burl Curtis	The Nev W.
2:00 - 2:30	Report on the progress of the Lord's church in Nor Noyles E. Sewell and Chester Hu		
2:30 - 3:30		Modern Idea for Spreading the Gospel Ray Fullerton-Moderator	Par Est gat
3:30 - 4:30		Lectures on Gathering and Prepa Leslie G. Thomas	
7:00 - 7:15	Invocation and Welcome	This time will be devoted to the the lectures. They are asked to	
7:15 - 8:00	The Need for the New Life G. F. Gibbs	Where the New Life is Lived Clay Henderson	Th Ne To
8:00	How the New Life is Received Tony Forrest	How the New Life is Retained C. W. Bradley	Th Go Bil

PLACE OF LECTURES - Abilene church of Christ, Route 1, Box 72 B,
Building located five miles east of Statesville

WELCOM

OLINA LECTURES

962

y	Thursday	Friday
rgiveness A- en-B. Smith	New Life and Sacrifice Joe Costilow	N. Life & Vengence & Retaliation - Paul Sikes
e and the	The New Life and the New Covenant James Davis	The New Life and the New Priesthood Alexander Campbell

outh Carolina

sion New Congre- Scott	The Preacher and His Work Ernest Thigpen	Organizing the Local Congregation Luther Atkinson
rial for Sermon Outlines		The New Life as Lived by Paul - Jesse Condra

spiritual songs by the young people who are attending
he front of the auditorium each night.

and the	The New Life Forfeited M. F. Norwood	Opposition to the New Life O. P. Baird
and	The New Life Regained Charles Gentry	The New Life in Eternity J. D Parker

North Carolina
64 (Mocksville Road)

LCOME!

News

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Johnny C. Sewell, S. C. News Editor
P. O. Box 250
Georgetown, S. C.

During this month I have received reports and/or bulletins from eleven congregations. We appreciate these and hope that soon all the churches of Christ in the state will send reports to us each month for publication in THE CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH. Remember please, for a report to be published in the next issue, it must reach me not later than the fifteenth of the month. For example, an item that reaches me by March 15 will appear in the April issue. An item that reaches me after March 15 will not appear until the May issue.

At this writing I am engaged in a series of meetings with the church in New Ellenton. Thus far one has been baptised. Members from the neighboring congregations in Aiken, Barnwell, Jackson, Williston, Orangeburg, S. C. and Waynesboro and Augusta, Ga. have been in attendance. It is good to see this fine spirit of co-operation manifested.

On the first Sunday of each month the churches in the Savannah River area conduct a singing. The last singing took place in Barnwell with 305 present. This was a combined singing and Open House. We congratulate this fine congregation on the completion of a new and functional house of worship. The next singing in this area will be conducted at Allendale at 3 p.m. on April 1.

The preachers in the Savannah river area meet for luncheon on the second Monday of each month. The next meeting will take place in Williston.

From Bill Howell it was learned that a congregation now meets in Hardeeville which is located approximately 20 miles north of Savannah on Hiway. 17. The Louisiana Avenue and Bull Street churches of Savannah were instrumental in establishing the Hardeeville congregation.

The Shandon Church of Christ in Columbia conducted a series of Gospel Meetings March 25-April 1 in which Robert Oz of Fall Church, Va. was the evangelist. A singing was conducted at 2:30 p.m. on April 1.

A Gospel Meeting took place with the church in Duncan congregation March 18 through 25 with Milton S. Parker doing the preaching. A singing took place on March 18 in connection with the meeting.

The national radio program, LIFE LINE can be heard over W.B.C.U., Union, S. C., Monday through Friday at 1:15 and on Sundays at 6:16 p.m.

The church in Florence conducted a Teacher Training Series with Carl McKelvy, Instructor of Religious Education at David Lipscomb College, as teacher on March 19 & 20.

Billy R. Davidson recently took part in a panel discussion on the "Order of Worship" at the Charleston Air Base Chapel. Denominational preachers were the other panelists. Your editor has heard commendable things about brother Davidson's work in contrasting New Testament worship with that of denominational worship. Bob Carrell spoke at the Durant Avenue services on the evening of the panel discussion in the absence of brother Davidson. This congregation now has allotted $135 per month for mission work with the latest additional sum going toward the work in Findlay, Ohio where Don Furate is the minister. During February the Durant Avenue church averaged 196 in Sunday school classes, 247 in morning worship and 175 in evening worship. The contributions averaged $ 427.75 per Lord's day during February.

The Chester church conducted a meeting March 18-23 in which Wayne Smith of Elizabethton, Tennessee did the preaching.

The Riverside Park church reports in its bulletin 2 baptisms recently.

The West Columbia and Williston congregations have recently begun placing regular orders for the Carolina Messenger of Truth. We hope that more and more will see the value of this paper to the Carolinas and work to increase its circulation.

The church in Georgetown reports two recent baptisms, bringing the membership to 85. Several visiting ministers have recently visited with the congregation and have spoken at the services. From this number a full-time minister will be chosen to replace Johnny C. Sewell, the present minister, who is to move to Charlotte, N.C. Paul

M. Tucker will preach in a series of Gospel Meetings there April 8 - 15.

MORE ABOUT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR THE CAROLINAS!

In a recent letter from Dr. W.B.West, Jr., it was stated that we will have to determine by June 1st if sufficient interest exists to warrant their offering an Extension Program in the Carolinas from Harding College in Bible and related areas. That is, we must let them know by June 1 if we want an extension program next Fall. If you are interested in this matter, please let me hear from you immediately. Can we not find 25 people who would be interested in advancing their education in the Bible who are able to enroll in these classes?

UNION, SOUTH CAROLINA
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

The work here continues to be very encouraging. The attendance has held up well in spite of the bad weather we have had of late.

In Feb. we had an average attendance of 102 for Bible study, and 102 for the morning worship, 65 for the evening worship. Wed. evening Bible study is averaging around 70. Contributions for Feb. averaged $194.54 per Sunday.

I will do the preaching in our Spring meeting, April 15th-22nd. Services daily at 7:30 p.m.

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA
Central Congregation
Virgil Richie, Reporting

In accordance with our plans to improve our facilities, we placed an order for new pews for our auditorium on Feb. 26. Our Spring Meeting is scheduled for April 22-29 with Bro. Ernest Thigpen, of Greenville, S. C. preaching.

N. C. NEWS, NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

Three Gospel Meetings are in progress in Eastern N. C. at this writing. The Whiteville meeting was begun Monday night, March 19 with good attendance and one response. Virgil Hale, the local preacher is doing the speaking. Preachers from Raleigh, Wilson, Kinston, and Mineral Springs assisted Bro. Hale on Monday with door-to-door canvassing of the city.

The meeting at Jacksonville with W. W. Willis preaching, is still in progress with excellent attendance.

Greenville, N. C. is also in a meeting at this time with Garland Elkins of Oak Ridge, Tenn. doing the preaching. J. R. Boren, gospel preacher of McMinnville, Tenn. along with several other brethren from Oak Ridge and McMinnville, is also working with the local preacher, C. E. Mannon, in the meeting. On Friday of this week the Greenville church will complete the purchase of building lots in a very desirable part of the city. The Greenville meeting is unique in that morning services are being conducted in Cedar Grove Community church building in Pactolus, N. C. while evening services are in the Elmhurst school in Greenville. Six former members of the Pactolus church were recently baptized into Christ by Bro. Mannon.

Goldsboro had one baptism this month along with several restored. Their spring meeting with George Bailey of Abilene, Texas is scheduled for May 20-27.

Here at Kinston we have witnessed three baptisms during March.

Bro. Melton of Wilson still hopes to erect some kind of building on their property there in the near future. A gospel meeting is planned for this spring with Bill Shelton of Raleigh doing the preaching.

This editor recently assisted the Pike Road church near Pantego in a two hour teacher training program. The work there goes well. A lady from Jamesville was baptized at the close of the service. Tom Daniel, preacher for the Jamesville Church reports a recent attendance of 64. I understand that they have acquired a used bus which is expected to be a great help in the work there.

Durham has set a goal of 112 in B.S. for March 18. Gordon Teffeteller, the Durham minister, makes the following request of our readers:

"Many out of town patients come to Duke Hospital and the V A Hospital in

Durham. The church would appreciate being advised of persons connected with the church upon whom calls need to be made. A short note or card to Box 965 about a patient here will allow us to better serve his needs."

The Raleigh congregation had a record of 192 in attendance during Mar. The new goal is 225. Two were baptized during the month. A meeting is planned for April 8 -15 with Paul Kidwell of Corinth, Miss. doing the preaching.

Joel Plunkett of Mineral Springs baptized three during March. Attendance there runs around 50. Bro. Plunket is presently conducting a film-strip study in a Methodist building with around 35 in attendance. There have been 11 baptisms at Mineral Springs within the past year. A spring meeting is planned for June with Jesse Melton of Wilson doing the preaching.

April 22 - 29 will be the dates of a gospel meeting at South Main in Winston-Salem. Neil Lightfoot will be the speaker.

F. L. Manning, formerly of Salisbury, N. C. and Duncan, S. C. is now working with the church in Ashboro.

The first business meeting of the West Side Church of Christ in Charlotte was held March 2. Twelve families were represented at this meeting. A total of 28 families have indicated a desire to be a part of the new work. Johnny Sewell will be working with the new church after June 1.

The Plaza congregation in Charlotte welcomed their new minister, Charles Gentry on March 11 with a record attendance of 265. A gospel meeting is planned for April 8-15 in which Bro. Gentry will preach.

Congregations in New Bern and Wilmington are interested in contacting preachers willing to work with them.

CLEMMONS, NORTH CAROLINA
W. J. Perkins, Reporting

One additional elder and two deacons were appointed here yesterday. Since our last report 3 have been restored. Our Bible school and worship attendance has consistently been high lately even though we lost several members to other places. Write-ins and phone calls indicate our new radio series each Sunday is increasing interest and listeners. The theme we are using is: "Controversial Questions Dividing Believers in Christ." The program is introduced as one dedicated towards UNITY among believers. In view of the current interest in UNITY among denominations the local newspapers gave our series much free publicity.

VALDESE, NORTH CAROLINA
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Having read in the Carolina Messenger the suggestion that the churches print the names of places where there is no church of Christ, and liking the idea, we decided to print information on some place in need of a congregation each month. So now, having printed it in the bulletin, we thought it well to print it in the Messenger.

Morganton, N. C. , the county seat of Burke county. Population 9,186, population of Burke county 52,701. Valdese is the only church in this large county. Morganton has a daily newspaper and a 5,000 watt radio station. Furniture and textiles are the main industries. They have nine different religious groups in the city limits. Starting attendance would be ten or more. Interested preachers and church contact Box 72, Valdese.

WOODLEAF, NORTH CAROLINA
Otis Qualls, Reporting

The work on our new building here at Corinth has progressed much faster than we had expected. The members have worked very hard and have given liberally toward this cause. The outside work is finished with the exception of landscaping, and a good showing has been made on the inside. This building with a full size basement will provide the necessary room for classes which we have been so much in need of. Our present building was built in 1916. Before that date the members met in an old log building.

Recently we gained two fine members of the church who moved here from the Broadstreet congregation in Statesville.

The church here is in need of a full time preacher as I will be making a change in June of this year.

A training program for teachers is underway here with interest shown.

TRYON, NORTH CAROLINA
Elton English, Reporting

The work here continues to move forward. Gains were made in every department during February. The attendance for the morning service averaged 41 and the contribution $44.80. We are praying that God will continue to bless our labor.

The area singing will be held here Sunday, April 15th, and Bro. Carl Lancaster will arrive on the 16th to do the preaching in our spring meeting. A dinner has been planned for the 22nd.

SHELBY, N. C.

Brother F. B. Shepherd of San Antonio, Texas has recently moved to Shelby to assist the fifteen members there for an indefinite period. At present the church worships in a residence at 505 N. Washington. It proposes however to purchase a suitable building lot as soon as one can be found, later of course to enter upon a building campaign.

Bro. Shepherd has recently returned from Hawaii where he has given five years of work. Two houses of worship have been erected as a direct result of his activities. He has also worked in North & South Carolina in the past. He will likely be available for some meeting work while he is resident in Shelby.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

$900 was set aside in the 1962 budget to be used in some special effort to reach the lost. Consideration is being given to a concerted effort to establish a congregation in Laurens, S. C. Laurens County adjoins Greenville County and has a population of 47,000 but no churches of Christ. A committee has been appointed to make a thorough study and propose some definite plans for such an effort.

Last month one was baptized and one restored. Morning worship attendance averaged 142 and contribution $177.78.

Our meeting with Harold Scott begins March 26, with services at 7:30 p.m.

# # #

WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA
Vernon C. Joines, Reporting

We have just concluded our first five months of work with the church in Williston. For the past two years we worked with the church at West Riverside, in McMinnville, Tennessee. Much progress has been made in Williston since October 1, 1961. A total of sixteen have responded to the Lord's invitation, (Two baptisms and fourteen restored).

The annual Spring Meeting of the church in Williston will be conducted on April 1-8. T. A. Isaacs, of New Orleans, La., will be the speaker. Services will be each evening at 7:30.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

Two placed membership in Jan. The membership now is 39. In Feb. the members gave $50 to the building fund over and above their regular contribution. Jack Hobby of Merritt Island, Fla. is to preach a meeting here May 7-16. VBS is to be July 30-Aug. 3. Contribution averaged $80.28 a week in March. We are presently showing a series of colored slides on Sunday evening called "The Inspired Book" by Winston Atkinson. Our appreciation goes to the Belmont Ave. congregation in Nashville, Tenn. for giving these to the church here.

THE CAROLINA LECTURES
J. Farris Baird, Reporting

We hope all who can will come to the CAROLINA LECTURES. We are looking forward to a wonderful time.

On Lord's Day evening (April 1) the Abilene & Broad St. churches will have a special meeting at 8:30 p.m. to ask God's blessing on the LECTURES. All who can are invited to come to this meeting. All others are asked to remember the CAROLINA LECTURES in prayer at the evening service.

We thank all our preaching brethren who have so graciously responded. Many will have to come a long way to be here. Lodging will be provided for those who desire it. Let us know the nights you will stay over and we will arrange this. The ladies of the Abilene & Broad St. churches will serve lunch each day.

Why Not Be "Christian" Only?

MANY GOOD PEOPLE entertain the idea that while it is right and safe beyond doubt to be called "Christian" it is not wrong to wear some other name in religion. May I plead with all believers to heave off all divisive names and wear only the divine designation of God's people.

The Book says: "The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch" (Acts 11:26). Upon hearing Paul plead for his soul, Agrippa said to Paul: "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian" (Acts 26:28). Peter said: "If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God on this behalf" (1 Peter 4:16).

Notice what some of the greatest religionists have said along the same line, and see that they agree with the plea of churches of Christ today:

Henry Ward Beecher: "Let me speak to you in the language of heaven and call you Christians."

Albert Barnes, commentator: "These divisions should be merged into the holy name, 'Christian'."

Martin Luther: "I pray you leave my name alone. Do not call yourselves Lutherans but Christians."

BY
GAYLE OLER
QUINLAN
TEXAS

John Wesley, from whom sprang Methodism: "Would to God that all party names were forgot, and that we, as humble, loving brethern, might sit down together at the Master's feet, read his Holy Word, imbibe his Spirit, and transcribe his life in our own."

John Wesley, again: "I wish the name 'Methodist' might never be mentioned more but lost in eternal oblivion."

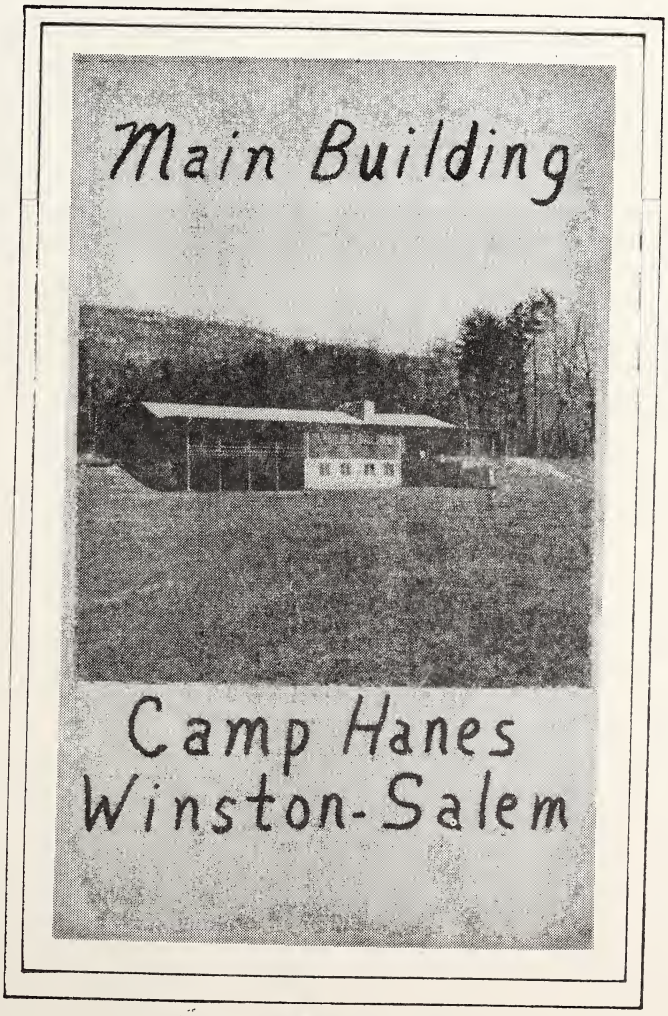
P. S. Henson, Baptist, in a General Convention of Baptist churches which met at Cleveland: "I sometimes feel sorry that the word 'Baptist,' which was flung at us by our enemies and stuck, should be our name, for often its accent of an act obscures to others our great mission in the world. Perhaps yet we will go back to the name 'Christian'."

Party names are always found to be in the way of fellowship, understanding, and accomplishment. Our plea for a return to the name Christian and for the laying aside of all divisive names is not little nor sectarian.

It is possible and right. Will you go your part? Wear only the name that will put the emphasis and glory upon the crucified and risen Christ. "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

"NEITHER IS THERE ANY OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN . . . WHEREIN WE MUST BE SAVED" (ACTS 4:12).

Carolina
MESSENGER OF TRUTH



May 1962



The CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP exerts a tremendous influence for good in the Carolinas. As an evidence of this we sight the fact that 75 young people became Christians during the last three years at CBC. In addition a number of others were restored and by means of teaching and personal counselling all, we trust, were encouraged and strengthened in the Christian faith and life!

The seventh and, we believe, the best year's encampment yet is scheduled for August 12-25 at Camp Hanes, just 23 miles northwest of Winston-Salem. Soon you are to receive brochures telling about this year's encampment. Applications and inquiries should be sent to: C. W. Bradley, 3224 Arlington Drive, Winston-Salem, N. C. Carolina Bible Camp is operated on a non-profit basis and exists to serve the youth of our two states. There has been no increase in tuition fees over the past several years.

Godly men and women, faithful members of the church of Christ, donate their time and talents because of their love of young people to provide a structured environment in which the highest Christian ideals are maintained. These teachers and counselors, many of them gospel preachers, care for your children at camp as if they were caring for their very own sons and daughters. You can rest assured that the camper's welfare is our chief interest at camp as we seek to help young men and women, aged 9-18, advance in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men, as did Jesus.

Carolina Bible Camp needs your help in the following ways: (1) We need for you to talk enthusiastically in your community about the camp and to encourage many young people from your community to attend camp this year. (2) We need for you and other faithful Christian men and women to come to camp this summer to serve as counselors and/or teachers. If you know of such people who would be in a position to come to camp this summer as counselors or teachers, please send their names to O. P. Baird, 2909 Park Street, Columbia, S. C.

We all, you and I, want to see Carolina Bible Camp grow in the number of young people in attendance and in the amount of good it does! Will you be an ardent supporter of this good work? We are counting on you to help CBC grow by leaps and bounds.

By Johnny Sewell
Georgetown, S. Carolina

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COVER PHOTO: $65,000 building housing dinning, recreation and assembly halls at Camp Hanes, new site of Carolina Bible Camp.

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
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MAMMONISM

Bill Smith, Valdese, N. C.

In Matthew 6:24 we find the following, "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Webster defines "mammonism" as "devotion to the pursuit of wealth; the service of mammon; worldliness."

The reason that God's people are not doing the work of the Lord is because many have replaced "Christianity" with "Mammonism." Because of this, congregations are being filled with small budgets (or none at all) and worldliness. While we are condemning Catholicism-Communism-Denominationalism-we are allowing mammonism to overthrow us.

According to Charles Chumley this is a true story. "A preacher went to a place to preach while the local preacher was absent. He was requested to teach the Bible class and was told that they were to study the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians, and that the lesson for that Sunday was the 8th chapter. The preacher taught the lesson exactly as Paul wrote it. Some of the people were somewhat disturbed. After the class he was told that they never allowed teaching or preaching on giving in their meeting house. Now, how did they expect a person to teach the 8th chapter of second Corinthians and not teach giving?"

We may not go so far as to forbid teaching on giving, but to turn a deaf ear and refuse to heed God's word on this matter is just as bad.

Could "mammonism" be the reason why we do not have more self-supporting congregations in these two states---the reason why we do not have an Orphans Home, Old Folks Home, permanent Bible Camp, and a Bible Chair in the Carolinas? No one will deny the fact that we need such facilities. Then, brethren, what are we waiting for? Let's put our shoulders, heads and pocketbooks together and stamp out "mammonism and worldliness" in the Carolinas. Let's do the work of the Lord NOW.



Bible vs. Communism, by Leroy Brownlow. Ft. Worth 1961, Brownlow Publications. Available from 20th Century Christian, Nashville, Tennessee.

A well known gospel preacher presents a study of Communism in the light of God's word. All statements of Communist beliefs are fully documented from their own writings. Every Christian and especially every preacher should study this book. The final chapter, What Can We Do?, is worth the price of the book. Twenty review questions following each chapter make it ideal as a text for class study. 180 pages, $2.50.

Minister and Doctor Meet, by Westberg, New York 1961, Harper.

For those interested in a better understanding of the relationship between religion and medicine in the healing process. Written by an experienced hospital chaplain, it deals at length with the mechanics of hospital visitation and counseling. Check your public library for this one.

Difficult Scriptures in Revelation Examined, by Floyd Myers. 1960, Privately printed. Available from 20th Century Christian.

The material in Brother Myers book is not original but the arrangement in one volume merits a place along with other study materials on the book of Revelation. Questions on each chapter of Revelation make it suitable as a basis for class study. Slightly overpriced. 170 pages, paper bound, $2.50.

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Charlotte's 3rd. Congregation

On May 13 the third congregation of the church of Christ will begin in Charlotte, N. C. This new work has been in the planning stage for two or three years and with the backing and blessings of the Plaza and Dilworth congregations, the West Side church is beginning under most favorable circumstances. The lead in the beginning of this new work was taken by the Elders of the Plaza church, which congregation will supply the majority of the beginning membership. One of the present Plaza overseers, David Rickleton, is to work and worship with the West Side congregation.

Johnny C. Sewell, presently of Georgetown, S. C., is to be the first fulltime minister. He is being supported in Charlotte largely by the Wingate church in Nashville, Tennessee, as was the case in Georgetown. The fact that a fulltime minister with support was available to work with the new congregation made it possible to begin the West Side work sooner than otherwise would have been the case.

On the evening of March 2 the first business meeting of the West Side group was conducted in the Plaza building. At that time brethren were assigned to handle various aspects of the work such as benevolence, publicity, transportation, teaching, etc. A wonderful enthusiasm was noted on the part of all present in anticipation of the beginning of what is expected to be a fast growing work for the Lord. Since that time other meetings of a business nature have been conducted with a view to beginning the teaching and overall church program most efficiently.

The church's first meeting place will be in a brick dwelling situated on a spacious lot. The building is located on the easily located and well traveled Rozzelles Ferry Road. Those traveling Interstate 85 should exit toward Charlotte on Highway 16. The nucleus of the new congregation will consist of some 35 or 40 members with an attendance of 65 or 70. These initial members will come from the Plaza and Dilworth churches primarily. Recently a family moved to Charlotte from Hickory, N. C. and will worship with the West Side church.

On May 13, Bible study will be at 10 A. M., morning worship at 11 and after the singing at 3:00 in the afternoon, there will be "dinner on the ground." The evening service will begin at 6 P. M. so as to enable the congregations near by to return to their own regularly scheduled evening worship. Burl Curtis, Editor of the Carolina Messenger, who has had 7 years experience working with new congregations in Greenville, S. C., is scheduled to speak at both services.

Charlotte is the largest city in the Carolinas with a population of some 206,000. One congregation is located on the east side, another on the south and the new congregation will be on the west. In this systematic location of the new congregation, it is our hope to speed the evangelization of the city.

The Plaza congregation plans to make the contribution of April 29 available for the new congregation. $1,000.00 or more is hoped for. Interest at the Plaza has been so high that the contribution has not come under $500.00 for the past few Sundays.

The West Side congregation needs and solicits the prayers and best wishes of brethren everywhere as this new work is undertaken for the Lord. Remember to visit them May 13.

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MEETINGS ANNOUNCED - West Columbia, S. C. - 1701 Augusta Road - May 6-13; 7:45 P. M. - Preaching by James S. Woodroof of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Northeast church, Greenville, S. C. - U. C. T. building, Greenacre Road - May 7-16; 7:30 P. M. - Jack Hobby speaker.

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THOMAS PROPOSES BOOK, "CAROLINA PULPIT"

At the recent Carolina Lectures, held at Abilene near Statesville, N. C., Leslie G. Thomas of Asheville, N. C. proposed the publication of a book of sermons called, "Carolina Pulpit." The book would be for "the benefit of present and future generations and would stir up interest throughout the nation in this mission field. It would be second to none in content," Thomas believes. "In fact it would be better than anything I have had anything to do with," he continued.

He suggested that a committee of five be selected in the following manner. Let the preachers in North Carolina select 2 and the preachers in South Carolina select 2 and then this committee select the 5th. The committee would have the responsibility of selecting those contributing to the book, reading the manuscripts and suggesting any changes, if necessary, and selecting an editor. (Bro. Thomas, undoubtedly the most experienced writer among us, stated that he would serve as editor of the book).

The sermons would be uniform in make-up and if a biography is used, it will be brief. If a picture is used, perhaps each writer would be asked to give $5.00 to cover the cost of the cut. It was suggested that any preacher unwilling to have his sermon edited should not contribute.

The preachers present at the Lectures suggested 5 from each state. All N. C. preachers are asked to indicate their choice of 2 from the 5 (or any others, if you like) and the same procedure will be used for S. C. Those suggested for S. C. were: 1) O. P. Baird, 2) Burl Curtis, 3) Carl Lancaster, 4) Virgil Richie, and 5) C. H. Woodroof. Those for N. C. : 1) Willard Conchin, 2) C. W. Bradley, 3) Gordon Teffeteller, 4) Ray Fullerton, and 5) Noyles Sewell. Bill Smith volunteered to print post cards to be mailed to all preachers in North and South Carolina which you may return to indicate your choice. Leslie Thomas quickly agreed to pay for the postal cards. June 1st was set as the dead-line for the return of your card. Present correspondence should be sent to Bill G. Smith, Box 72, Valdese, N. C.

GOD WANTS YOU TO BE A SUCCESSFUL SOUL-WINNER

Noyles E. Sewell
Kinston, North Carolina

Every member of the Lord's church should be a soul-winner. If all were soul winners the growth of the church would be obvious in every community. But few churches of Christ are experiencing commendable growth because few Christians are engaged in the glorious work of soul winning. The majority of church members never even attempt to win a soul to Christ, and even of those who do try, some are unsuccessful, leaving only a small percentage of successful soul-winners. Unfortunately, many preachers and elders are among the former class. Where this is true it is hardly to be expected that the rest of the congregation will rise above their unprofitable example. But even where the leadership of the church actually leads in personal work, the number who follow their lead remains pitifully small. Why this indifference toward the greatest business on earth? Although many contributing factors could be listed, I am convinced that the real reason is lack of individual preparation. Most Christians are unprepared to do successful personal work because of spiritual, mental, or emotional deficiencies. Although you may realize that in some way you are unprepared, you may not know just why, or in what way, you are unprepared and thus be unable to supply that which is lacking.

To help each reader find his own answer, I want to list a few indispensable items of individual preparation for soul-winning. Please consider them with the thought in mind that God wants you to be a successful soul-winner.

1. You must be convinced that the gospel is what it claims to be. The gospel of

(see page 6)

GOD WANTS (cont'd)

Christ is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16). You are unprepared to save souls until you are convinced that the gospel is the power of God, that it will save, and that it alone will save. You must be convinced that the world outside of Christ is lost. As you view the futile efforts of men to save themselves through humanly devised methods, you must be able to say with great conviction that in the gospel of Christ and in the Christ of the gospel there is salvation and in none other.

2. You must be living a transformed life. "Be not conformed to this world but be ye transformed..." (Rom. 12:1). You cannot lead a soul from the darkness of the world into the light of salvation if you are living in the twilight of compromise. Your life must radiate the love of Christ, the joy of salvation and the peace that passeth understanding. David emphasized the value of a transformed life in preparation for soul-winning as he prays, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me,...restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways and sinners shall be converted unto thee." (Ps. 51:10-13).

3. You must have a sincere love for the lost. We are told many times in the inspired record that Jesus "was moved with compassion" as he looked upon the multitudes. He fed them, healed them, and taught them because he loved them. This must be your motive in doing personal work. A desire to build up the church in a spirit of competition with the denominations will not prepare you for successful soul-winning. You must love the lost because Jesus loved them and gave himself for them. Because you love them, you will diligently seek them and tenderly lead them into the fold.

4. You must have a working knowledge of the Bible, especially as pertains to the fundamentals of the gospel. You cannot lead othere to obey from the heart that which you do not understand. You must not only know what the Bible teaches but you must be prepared to readily find the scriptures as they are needed to support the truth you are endeavoring to teach. Skill in using the sword of the Spirit cannot be overemphasized.

5. You must have a knowledge of denominational doctrines, especially those that are most likely to be encountered. The more you know of the false doctrines to which a person holds, the better you are prepared to help him see the truth. It is often possible that the person does not realize what position he is committed to as a member of his denomination. A knowledge of these denominational doctrines will enable you to bring them to his attention and show wherein they are contrary to the Bible.

6. You must have some knowledge of the methods of personal work. Many Christians who are prepared in almost every other way do not engage in personal soul-winning because they feel they "don't know how." I believe there are 3 ways in which you may learn the best methods and procedures of doing personal work. One is just to start doing it and learn by trial and error. Another is to go with an experienced and successful soul-winner and observe his method. The third way is to study one or more of the books on the subject written by our brethren. I have in my library, You Can Do Personal Work by Otis Gatewood; Let's Go Fishing For Men by Homer Hailey; From House to House by Ivan Stewart and The Glory Of The Ordinary by Jack Exum. If you can't borrow one of these from the preacher or someone in the congregation, you can order them from any of the brotherhood supply houses.

7. You must rely upon God to give the increase. As long as you think only in terms of what you are going to do on the basis of your knowledge and your skill, you are yet unprepared to be a successful soul-winner. Paul said, "I have planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth, but God that giveth the increase." As you rely upon God for the increase, you will also be often in prayer

(see page 7)

GOD WANTS (cont'd)

for those whom you are endeavoring to win. Paul is again the example, for it was he who said, "Brethren, my hearts desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved..." (Rom. 10:1).

The foregoing are just some of the items of necessary preparation for successful soul-winning through personal work. Many more could be listed but surely none of these can be neglected. Reader, God wants you to be a soul-winner. If you are prepared, get busy winning souls. If you are yet unprepared, get busy preparing. The salvation of souls, including your own, depends on it. The success formula for soul-winning is found in Ps. 126:6 and with it we close. David said, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." The key word here is doubtless for it means that the results are sure if we will go. Therefore, go. Go persistently and patiently. Go with weeping. Go with the word of God. Go because God wants you to be a soul-winner.

EDITORIAL POLICY

At the last Messenger meeting, held at Statesville, N. C. the first of April, a previously appointed committee submitted the recommended editorial policy of the Messenger. This policy needed to be agreed upon before the non-profit corporation was fromed to guide the paper and to be responsible for the subsidy which it will always need.

This editorial policy will serve as a guide for the editor, the Messenger staff and all who contribute to it. Following are the itmes and a brief explanation.

We believe the Carolina Messenger of Truth should exist to FULFILL THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA. We include in this all those who should be members. No nobler nor higher reason

(see page 11)

WHAT'S A BULLETIN?

C. R. Franks
Burlington, N. C.

A bulletin is a reminder and a record. We are all reminded of many duties and opportunities in bulletins. We are given a record of various news and announcements along with pertinent names, the addresses, dates, times, etc. Thus a bulletin is a follower of verbal announcements and serves to remind us to DO something about various things.

A bulletin is also a teaching medium. On many occasions bulletins carry brief and pointed bits of teaching on various subjects. Many if not most of the homes of church members never receive any printed teachings. A bulletin often gives all the written teaching a home will get. It is thus very appropriate that a bulletin carry some teaching.

A bulletin is a representative-representing the church's work, or the local program. It is representative of the editor's attitude and views. It is to a degree representative of the church's attitude and views on many subjects, especially on what is sometimes called "brotherhood issues." A bulletin is a representative to many non-members of what the church is and what its members do. It goes into the hands of many who are not members and has some kind of effect among all.

A bulletin, when prepared and made ready by a number of members in a congregation, is an opportunity to do some bit of work. Preparation of material, the typing, printing, folding, distributing by whatever means, all of these present opportunities for many members to do at least some little bit of work.

For these, and many other reasons, a bulletin should be given care and attention. It should not be the preacher's propaganda medium. It should be used widely. It should be read by everyone in each household of members. Its news, information, pleas, articles, and general make-up should be a sort of summary of the needs every way possible.

CAROLINAS CHURCH NEWS!

NOYLES E. SEWELL
JOHNNY C. SEWELL

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Johnny C. Sewell, S. C. News Editor
P. O. Box 250
Georgetown, S. C.

The church of Christ, 1701 Augusta Road, West Columbia will be engaged in a series of Gospel Meetings May 6 - 13 in which James S. Woodroof of Little Rock, Arkansas, a former minister of the West Columbia congregation, will do the preaching. W. G. Gantt began his second year of work with the West Columbia church on April 1. Within the past year 9 have been baptized and 15 restored to duty. Recently 39 persons attended the Ladies Bible Class at West Columbia.

The church in Georgetown conducted a Spring Meeting April 8 - 15 in which Paul M. Tucker of the Wingate congregation in Nashville, Tennessee did the preaching. In this meeting there were 6 baptisms. On Friday night a record attendance of 151 assembled for worship. The fine co-operation of the Lord's people in Charleston, Florence and Myrtle Beach coupled with that of the Georgetown brethren made this possible. A chartered bus came from Charleston. Thus far this year there have been 8 baptisms, 3 restorations & 3 placements of membership. On April 30 the next full-time minister of this congregation was selected.

The church in North Charleston which meets at 801 Durant Avenue conducted a Gospel Meeting April 15-22 in which Harold Scott of Statesville, N.C. did the preaching. On Monday night of each week the members of this church meet for visitation of the prospective members, the new-comers, the sick, the absentees, etc. Their Ladies' Bible class meets on Wednesday mornings. In connection with the meeting a Sunday School attendance drive was conducted. The previous attendance record was 267 and they sought to surpass that with 275 on the 22nd. In a recent week 7 responded to the gospel at Durand Avenue. Four were restored, two placed membership and one was baptised.

The Riverside Park church in Charleston reports 2 placements of membership lately. The S. S. attendance averages approximately 66 with an 11 A.M. average of 94. This congregation recently had one family move to Charlotte.

Milton S. Parker of Union writes, "There are signs of increased interest in the work here. Average attendance for Sunday morning worship in January was in the 90's. In February the average was 103 and for March 111. Average contribution for March was $193. 69. To the elders and a membership willing to work with them goes the credit for this increase." The Union church was engaged in a Gospel Meeting Series with Milton S. Parker going the preaching April 15-22. A singing was conducted on April 22.

Milton S. Parker preached in a recent meeting with the Duncan church in which 1 was baptized. It is reported that this meeting was well attended by the people of the community and by members of the church in the area.

From G. F. Gibbs in Greenwood we have the following statement: "Our work here still is encouraging. We are planning some work among the colored people and are trying to interest others through the newspaper. We are hoping to set up a correspondence course in the Bible."

Wayne Smith was supported in a Gospel Meeting in Chester by the Elizabethton, Tennessee congregation. This meeting ran five days with an average attendance of 46. Good increase was reported. Morning services were conducted on Tuesday and Thursday during the meeting in addition to the evening services. On April 15 Tom Bolick of Chester and Richard Harp of Lancaster exchanged pulpits.

The Florence congregation conducted a Sunday School attendance drive on April 1. Seventy-one were present on that day. A Gospel Meeting series will be conducted in Florence May 13-20 in which Johnny C. Sewell of Georgetown is to preach. During the meeting there will be radio and T. V. programs secured as free time on which brother Sewell is to speak. An attendance drive is underway for May 13 on which day it is hoped that 80 will be present for the beginning services. An area-wide singing is scheduled for the 13th.

A fine number of people expressed an interest in the Extension Program which Harding College is willing to bring to the Carolinas. If this program of study is to be brought to the Carolinas by next September, we must have 25 students who will make definite plans to enroll in the classes offerred in Bible and related fields. These class-will meet one day every other week. A person can take work on a graduate or undergraduate level. It is possible to do work toward the M.A, M. Re., M. S.T. degrees in this extension program. These classes can be audited for no credit at a reduced tuition fee if one should wish to approach them from that standpoint. A questionaire will soon be mailed to the preachers in the Carolinas inquiring as to their interest in this matter. Bear in mind that any person, Christian or non-Christian, preacher or not, can enroll in these classes. When you receive your questionaire in the mails, please study it carefully and return it to your S. C. news editor right away. If you do not receive a copy, the oversight is unintentional, it is hoped that you will write for one soon.

GREENVILLIE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl E. Lancaster, Reporting

Harold Scott of Statesville, N. C. presented the gospel in an excellent manner in a gospel meeting here Mar.26 thru April 1. Many visitors came to the meeting. One was restored. A new attendance record was reached on the last day of the meeting with 158 present.

N. C. NEWS, NOTES AND 'NOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

The 1962 Carolina Lectures were held in Statesville, April 2-6, providing a feast of fellowship for the two Statesville congregations and for those who came from other nearby congregations. A good number of preachers were present from all over the two States to enjoy the hospitality of the brethren in Statesville, and to become better acquainted with one another. Among the newcomers to the Carolinas are G. F. Gibbs, now at Greenwood, and F. B. Shepherd of Shelby, two veteran soldiers of the cross. Bro. Gibbs has in years past labored in many parts of South Carolina. Bro. Shepherd recently left Hawaii after a successful work. A high point of the lectures was the daily discussion of Sermon Preparation by Bro. Leslie G. Thomas, who has earned for himself a reputation in this field. For a wonderful 1962 Carolina Lectures, we are grateful to J. Farris Baird and the Abilene congregation.

Here at Kinston we have had one baptism since last report, bringing our total to 10 thus far for this year.

MISSION MEETING OPPORTUNITY

From Gordon Teffeteller comes this offer: "The Welcome Hill church in Valdosta, Ga., for whom I have held meetings for the past two years, offers to fully support me in a meeting in the Carolinas for a worthy group. If this interests any group, write me, Box 965, Durham, N. C." Two were baptized in Durham in April.

A new congregation in Charlotte will begin meeting May 13th. A building has been rented on Rozzelles Ferry Road. About 20 families of the Plaza congregation will make up this new work along with Johnny Sewell, who will serve as their minister.

Broad Street in Statesville proceeds toward construction of an annex to provide additional classroom space. Carl Lancaster of Greenville, S.C. will begin a meeting there May 6.

The chorus of N.I.C.E. College will be at South Main in Winston-Salem on April 22. Also on that date Neil Lightfoot will begin a meeting there.

Paul Kedwell of Corinth, Miss. did the preaching in a meeting in Raleigh in April. Attendance averaged 145 and there were 4 baptisms.

Goldsboro reports two responses since last report. George Bailey will be the speaker in a meeting there May 20-27.

The Belfork congregation in Jacksonville is now meeting in a new building. This is the only colored group meeting east of Fayetteville in N. C.

The Cape Fear Church of Christ met for the first time April 1 st in the city of Fayetteville. Temporary place of worship is Jernigan-Warren Funeral Chapel at 545 Ramsey St. Hours of services: Sunday, Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Wed., Bible Study at 7:30. Attendance for the first Sunday was 41 morning and 46 evening. Minis-

ter for the new church is Bob Langston, a native of Illinois and recently preaching for the church in Rosiclare, Illinois. He is a graduate of FHC. The following is from their first bulletin: "It is indeed a joyous occasion today as the church of the Lord marks another milestone in the history of Fayetteville and North Carolina. Thru the combined efforts of the Lincoln Heights and the Fanning Heights churches in Huntsville, Ala. and several members in the Fayetteville area, the Cape Fear Church of Christ was established. It is our hope and fervent prayer that our decision to establish a second congregation in the Fayetteville area will supply a need which a sense of duty will not allow us to ignore....The efforts and zeal manifested by those instrumental in establishment of the new congregation is greatly appreciated. We are also thankful for the prayers, cooperation, and assistance of the Bonnie Doone Church of Christ."

GREENVILLE, N. C.
C. E. Mannon, Reporting

Three obeyed the gospel in our meeting last month with J. R. Boren of McMinnville, Tenn. and Garland Elkins of Oak Ridge, Tenn. doing the preaching. Since the meeting two have placed membership. Lots were purchased on March 20, and as soon as possible construction will begin on the first stage of the building. Averages for first quarter of the year were: Attendance 22, Contribution $70.87.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Bill Perkins, Reporting

March 25 climaxed a three week Bible School drive, at which time we enjoyed the largest attendance we have had this year. Every class set a record. We plan a persons work course on Wed. nights using the Jule Miller training course with film-strips. We are using a film strip "The Way Home" in seeking to influence some who obeyed the Gospel years ago and are not now attending. It is a very useful lesson. This week I am helping the colored congregation, Capernium, in a series of Gospel services. Clifford Davis is the local preacher. The series got off to a fine start with an afternoon service yesterday and a full house. The congregation is helping send me to the ACC Lectures. One elder and his wife plan to go with us. We ask all within driving distance to remember the Annual September- Labor Day program and plan now to bring a group this year and spend the day with us.

We had two responses on the 8th of April, one to be baptized and one to be restored.

HIGH POINT, N. C.
Olan Hicks, Reporting

The Lord has richly blessed the church in High Point lately. Two families moved into our community and along with several restorations and conversions our membership now totals 110. We set an attendance goal for April 1st of 150 and it was smashed real good as 181 people attended the morning service that day. Attendance since that time has continued to average more than 130.

For the first time, the church here has reached beyond the point of being self-supporting. We now aid in the support of brother Davis among the colored brethren in the amount of $45 monthly. Our weekly radio program, "The Open Bible", continues to be well received. It is heard Sunday mornings at 9 A.M. on station WNOS at 1590 kcs. Our number one problem now is getting a larger building with more adequate facilities. We hope to be able to do this soon. Our Spring meeting with J. B. Whitaker of Rockingham, is set for June 25 - July 1. Pray for us and visit us when you can.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Bill McEnerney, Reporting

Brother Charles E. Gentry, newly appointed evangelist at the Plaza, concluded a week's Gospel Meeting here on Sunday, April 15th. Bro. Gentry will leave after services tonight for a weeks Gospel Meeting at Sparta, Tenn.

There will be many opportunities to attend Gospel meetings in this area thru the next several months ahead; to enjoy the good lessons from God's word by dedicated men. In measuring the success of a Gospel Meeting we must consider not only the new souls won to Christ but the precious ones who repent and rededicate their lives, as well as

the strengthening and teaching of the Christians in the church. There is no spiritual measurement or evaluation which would make any one category more important than the other.

Our attendance continues near 300 each Lord's day and 120 in Wed. evening Bible study. Contributions average 500 weekly. We pray for attendance, high interest and continued contributions so we may discharge our solemn duties to the group who will soon break away to form the new Westside congregation in Charlotte. A recent business meeting was held to reassign and allocate the work of the church for both the Plaza and Westside congregations. God help us and grant us the wisdom and zeal to succeed in this new work.

WOODLEAF, N. C.
Ottis L. Qualls, Reporting

Our plans for the future are not yet complete. We had decided to move to Fla., but reversed that decision and now plan to stay within the Carolina's if possible. The church here has asked brother Theddus Prichard to work with them beginning in June of this year. 2 made confessions at the evening services recentlyand interest continues to be good.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporting

The church at Red Oak is a small one, about twenty-one members, three-fourths of which are women.

Our two home preachers, brothers Carl B. Hyder and Eddie G. Kerr, continue to preach to us the pure gospel.

Our average morning attendance i s about 28. Our average collection per month, about $85.00. Our first gospel meeting of the year will be June 10-17. Those living close enough to reach us are cordially invited. Bro. George A. Cooper of Huntsville, Ala. will do the preaching.

Bro. Hyder continues to preach over Marshall, N. C. radio each Saturday from 11:45 to 12. Please try to tune him in about 1460 on your radio dial.

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Horace Greely once received a letter from a woman stating that her church was in distressing financial straits. They had tried every device they could think of: fairs, turkey banquets, oyster suppers, mock marriages, grab bag socials, etc. "Would Mr. Greely be so kind as to suggest some new device to keep the struggling church from disbanding? The editor replied,"TRY RELIGION."

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E D I T O R I A L P O L I C Y (Cont.)

could be found than to advance the cause of Jesus, the Christ. We believe the six items below will help attain this worthy goal.

1. News of mutual interest which edifies. Much has already been said about the necessity of "keeping in touch." The Messenger will provide a way of doing this and, unquestionably, we will be encouraged when we hear of the success of others in the Lord's work. News which does not "build up" the church will be continually rejected.

2. Articles that edify. The Messenger will continue to carry printed teaching. We can share with others what we have learned from the Bible. So far, the teaching articles have been good but they must be improved. We need articles of a scholarly nature and we need those that will fill the need of the unlearned in the Scriptures.

3. Inform others of mission opportunities in the Carolinas. Inform all Christians in the Carolinas and all outside these two states. A great need must be filled in this respect. Hundreds, probably thousands, do not know that the Carolinas are "mission territory."

4. To encourage Carolina churches to evangelize. "Preach the word" everywhere, especially in the Carolinas. Surely, no one has a greater responsibility, as he has opportunity, to teach the gospel to the lost in the Carolinas than the ones living here.

5. To plead for the complete restoration of New Testament Christianity. Not to go beyond the Bible but to be sure we are standing exactly where it stands. We shall endeavor to cause others to stand on Bible ground.

6. To accept articles and advertizing which promote unity. We shall reserve the right to refuse any articles, news, or advertizing, free or paid, which will not promote unity.

Extending to you

a cordial invitation from

Church Of Christ

EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA

to share in these services

Gospel Meeting



205 EAST MAIN STREET
EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAY 15-22; 7:45 P. M.

DIAL HOLDER - Song Leader

BROTHER SHARP
SPEAKER

COME AND BRING THE FAMILY

Carolina
MESSENGER OF TRUTH



JUNE 1962

DAVIDSON-S. C. News Editor

Billy R. Davidson of N. Charleston, S. C. is the new News Editor for this state. This change was necessary since Johnny Sewell, present News Editor, has moved to work with the new West Side congregation in Charlotte, N. C.

We express our sincere appreciation to Johnny for his capable work in this department. He did much to promote a wider participation in the news column for South Carolina. His promptness was always appreciated. Bro. Sewell is, in our opinion, a fitting example for othere to imitate.

Our praise also extends to Billy Davidson. We welcome him as News Editor for South Carolina and look forward to a pleasant association. In accepting the work he wrote, "I am honored that you would ask me to serve as the news editor for the Messenger for South Carolina. I hasten to accept the position... I promise that I shall endeavor to do my best."

Please REMEMBER hereafter to send all news from S. C. directly to Billy R. Davidson, Route 6, Box 444, North Charleston, S. C.

BOOK REVIEWS - by Noyles E. Sewell

Communism, Its Faith and Fallacies, by James D. Bales, Grand Rapids, Mich. 1962, Baker Book House, available from 20th Century Christian, Nashville, Tenn.

Bro. Bales, professor of Christian Doctrine at Harding College, is a well known authority on Communism. He has travelled world wide and has observed Communism in action. He is a personal friend of Herbert Philbrick and J. B. Matthews. Few other books so thoroughly explain the doctrines of Communism or so conclusively show the incompatibility of Communism and Christianity. 214 pages, $3.95.

Refocusing God, the Bible and the church by M. F. Cottrell, 1962. Privately printed by the author, 5985 W. 32nd. Ave., Denver 12, Colo. The author is a Christian, a preacher and a psychiatrist. The book consists of an attack on many of the crystalized concepts found in brotherhood thinking with a challenge to re-evaluate. The Bible is presented as "God's psychotherapy." Contains a chapter on "Counselling and emotionally disturbed." The mature Bible student will find this book interesting and stimulating while likely heartily disagreeing with much of it. 202 pages, $3.50.

If interested in subscribing to "Minister's Monthly" at $2. per year, please forward name and address to me, Box 1083, Kinston, N. C.

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Because of meetings scheduled by your editor and others, the Messenger is expected to be late in July.

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
Vol. IV JUNE 1962 No. 6

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Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Billy Davidson, S. C. News Editor
Joe Costilow, Art Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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* *
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Think On This

Clay Henderson
Hickory, North Carolina

The following is not an article filled with scriptures; it is submitted merely to provoke thought in the hearts of those who take the leadership in the church and in the hearts of those who care little or none at all about faithfulness to the Lord.

It is possible that other preachers have noticed that there are those in the church who begin to drift back into the world, and when you talk to them about their indifference and laxity in fervency and zeal for Christ, they possess the attitude, "Just leave me alone; I'm all right." Eventually this type of attitude will lead one completely away from the worship services and Christian living throughout the week.

After several weeks or months pass, you might find these very people back in the pews, with the attitude, seemingly, that everything is all right between them and God and His people. They will observe the Lord's Supper and participate in the worship services, singing, "Come We That Love The Lord..." and like songs with no feeling or remorse of conscience whatsoever--all this without ever making a public confession.

Notwithstanding, it may be the fault of the teachers in the church or the preacher to a certain degree that would ever let a case like this exist. We realize that the blame falls to a great extent on those of us who lead, yet it all cannot fall on our shoulders. The teaching program sometimes has to be centered around many of these people in this category; oftentimes we find those who have consistently absented themselves from the worship services being used in public prayers, waiting on the Lord's table, and taking part in all the services. In reality they have not made everything right between them and their God. When one is persistent in staying away from the services, and one does not consider this withdrawing from God, what will it take for one to withdraw from fellowship of God and His children?

Most everyone believes that a Christian is to assemble at least on Sunday morning to 11:00 AM. He thinks he is fully accepted in the eyes of God when he does this. "Besides, this is the most important part of the service," he says! He thinks nothing wrong if he doesn't show up Sunday evening or at the mid-week services. (One brother made a remark to me that unless a church has elders the church couldn't scripturally expect anyone to attend any other time except at the morning service). But the question is, "How many of the services might a Christian miss and still be in fellowship with God and His people?" When we constantly assign a brother or a sister a place in the teaching program or any part in the church work, it stands that we must be approving of his slackness and indifference! Yet we say that unless we use those people in the services the same three or four men will be doing all the work. In reality, they are doing all the important work anyway. They are the ones who encourage by their faith the importance of living Christ-like daily; they are the ones who visit the sick, call upon othere in the community; they are the ones who can be depended upon. But when it comes to public worship, we use those who are indifferent, unconcerned, lax, and lukewarm! In private they do not profess Christianity to their friends, but in public we let them make a mockery of Christianity!

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MARVIN CHAVIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Again this year the Marvin Chavis Scholarship Fund will be used to send a few young people to Carolina Bible Camp who could not otherwise attend. The scholarships have been limited this year to those from ages 13-16. Application blanks are available from Harold L. Scott, Box 1484, Statesville, N. C. If you would like to apply for a scholarship for a worthy applicant, write for blanks soon. The deadline for blanks to be turned in is July 4.

ONE FAITH IS AUTHORIZED, COMMANDED, DEMANDED!!

G. F. Gibbs
Greenwood, S. C.

Romans 10:17 shows that "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Since there is only ONE book that can be called the word of God, since there is only ONE God who has spoken to man, since there is only ONE Lord and only ONE Holy Spirit to reveal God's word spoken through Jesus Christ, the Lord, then to believe the ONE word spoken by the ONE God as authorized by the ONE Lord and revealed by the ONE Holy Spirit can but lead to ONE faith. See Hebrews 1:1,2; 2:1-4. In Mark 16:16 this ONE Lord said, "He that believeth not shall be damned." Believeth not what? The gospel which was to be preached to every creature. Mk. 16:15. Now the gospel is God's power unto salvation to everyone that believeth. Romans 1:16. Paul certified that gospel as being from God and not from man. Galatians 1:11,12. He also warned that any other gospel, though preached by an angel, would bring a curse. Galatians 1:6-9. Now if only ONE gospel is certified by God and we must believe that or be damned, how say some among us that it doesn't make any difference what you believe just so you are honest in it? If believing the ONE gospel leads to the ONE faith and we must believe that or be damned, then we MUST conclude that just anything is the gospel or that it does make a difference what you believe. Any and every individual who presents, practices or adheres to a doctrine but tells you that you don't have to believe like he teaches and practices, admits on the surface that what he preaches is NOT the gospel and that the faith which you get from it is not the ONE faith because Jesus said, "He that believeth not" the gospel would be damned.

To accept the common teaching means that many would be saved, but Jesus said the saved would be few. Matthew 7:14. It is not the desire of this writer to exalt himself, accuse his fellows or make enemies of people, neither is it his desire to be narrow nor intolerant BUT only to remind poor, lost men of what the BIBLE TEACHES. Well meaning men have built world wide denominations using much of the Bible and much of their own interpretation and opinions. Whatever is taught or practiced that is not found in the word of God is not the GOSPEL and cannot lead to the ONE faith. Regardless of what one believes and how honestly it may be believed, if it is not taught in the BIBLE, it is not of God.

PLANS FOR LAURENS, S. C.

Carl Lancaster
Greenville, S. C.

The Augusta Road congregation in Greenville, S. C. set aside in their budget for 1962 $900 to be used in some special effort to reach the lost other than our local program of work. Men were appointed to investigate various localities in this section of the state to determine what they felt presented the greatest opportunities and needs. As a result of the facts gathered it was unanimously decided that Laurens, S. C. presented the greatest opportunity and need.

Laurens County has a population of 47,000 but is without a single congregation of undenominational Christians. This county has one of the largest populations of any county in the state without a congregation. The city of Laurens has a population of 10,000 and Clinton (8 miles from Laurens) has a population of 6,000. There are 3 faithful Christians and 3 unfaithful Christians that we know of that live in Laurens. One of these faithful Christians is a song leader for the church in Woodruff, S. C. He expresses a keen interest in an effort to establish a congregation in Laurens and offers to help in whatever way possible but says that he feels that he should continue to worship with the church in Woodruff for the time being because of their great need. Laurens seems to be a

(see page 5)

LAURENS, S. C. (cont'd)

rather progressive city. It has at least 9 different good-sized industries and two or three of these have just moved into the city in the last few years. It has a weekly newspaper that claims to be South Carolinas largest weekly, and an AM FM radio station.

A committee of five men was appointed to propose some actual plans for our efforts to establish a congregation there. As a result of their recommendations the following plans were made.

1. An ad on our Bible correspondence course was placed in the Laurens Newspaper. Approximately a dozen students are studying now in the Clinton, Laurens area.
2. Plans are being made for a two to three week tent meeting that is to begin August 5th.
3. Ten large teaching articles are to be placed in the weekly newspaper. These will be run one-a-week beginning seven or eight weeks before the meeting starts. Articles will be similar to those that have been used in national magazines.
4. Twenty-six radio programs are scheduled. They will begin about a week or ten days before the tent meeting begins and will continue during it and will be on six days a week.
5. Plans are to canvass the area and place invitation-teaching folders in every home in the city before the meeting.

As a result of these efforts we are hoping that conversions will result, that unfaithful Christians will be located and restored and that many valuable contacts can be made. If so, this will form the nucleus of a congregation there.

Augusta Road is determined to stand by such a congregation and see that they are provided with a place to meet and have someone to continue to work with them, teach them and seek to reach others. We are well aware that we are so limited financially that we cannot do this alone. However, we are willing to do what we can toward providing for a meeting place or other needs in the years ahead and with faith in God and in our brethren in other locations we believe any needs that arise can be met and such endeavors can and will succeed.

THE SABBATH DAY

C. E. Mannon
Greenville, North Carolina

The question of sabbath day observance has long confused many honest and sincere people. We shall take up this subject in the light of scriptural teaching and endeavor to study so as to answer the questions that trouble us most and thus come to an understanding of the truth. Keep in mind, that in this study, we are concerned about the seventh day sabbath, that Saturday-sabbath which man was once commanded to observe; that sabbath which is most familiar to us in that one of the ten commandments reads: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." This sabbath is specified as the one under consideration because of there being other sabbaths referred to in the Bible, in that the word itself is from the Hebrew "shabbath" and literally means "rest." For example, after the first six days in God's work of creation, He is described as resting on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day, God ended his work which he had made, and God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it; BECAUSE THAT IN IT HE HAD RESTED FROM ALL HIS WORK WHICH GOD CREATED AND MADE." (Genesis 2:1-3) In commenting on this fact some 2500 years later, Moses assigned the same reason for the seventh day being set apart as a day for man to keep holy; namely, because God had rested from all his work. Listen: Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant,

(see page 6)

nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day wherefore (for this reason C. E. M), the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it." (Exodus 20:8-11) Therefore, the original sabbath which God set aside for himself was a memorial of his rest from creation. Thus, in the first week of time, the seventh day was a hallowed space of 24 solar hours to commemorate God's rest from his labor of creating all things, and since the close of those first six days, there has never been an atom of physical matter created.

While God set aside from himself a rest from the labors of his six days of creation, the questions with which we want to be concerned is when man was first commanded to keep the sabbath, what group of people, for what purpose, and for what length of time was the sabbath to be observed on the part of those to whom it was given. Let us take up our first question: "When was man first given the sabbath and commanded to observe the same?" Some contend that the seventh day as a day of rest or sabbath was set apart for man at the same time that God set it apart for himself, but a careful study of a few points will prove that such contention has no basis in truth. For one thing, over 2500 years passed before there was a single record of God's commanding any man to keep the seventh day as a sabbath holy unto Jehovah, or before there was any example of anyone keeping it; or even before there was a single case of anyone violating it. Not until the Israelites had become a nation and had been liberated from Egyptian bondage and were on the march in the wilderness of Sin is God seen commanding any man to observe the sabbath as a day of solemn rest. The occassion of God's first commandin sabbath observance was in regard to Israel's gathering the manna that God sent from heaven as their food supply as they journeyed through the wilderness. In Exodus 16:22-26, the Israelites were commanded to gather enough food on the sixth day to last over the seventh, "for tomorrow," saith Jehovah; "is a solemn rest, a holy sabbath unto Jehovah." This being true, there would be no gatherings on that day. Friends, here is an important point. The Israelites were so cammended to gather their food and to observe the seventh day as a solemn rest, a holy sabbath unto Jehovah, not because they were already bound to keep the sabbath holy, but in preparation for their observing or keeping the sabbath as a holy day. This fact is emphasized in Exodus 16:4-5, "Then said Jehovah unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you: and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may PROVE them, whether they will walk in my law or not. And it shall come to pass on the sixth day, that they shall prepare that which they bring in and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily." So the emphasis is upon God's proving or trying the Israelites in this first command for their observing the sabbath. For it is not until we have followed the Israelites unto the foot of Mount Sinai, where there they encamp, as Moses goes up to the top of the mount; it is not until then that we hear the voice of God command Israel to "remember the sabbath day to keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8) In this covenant that God is seen making with the Jews, the Israelites, upon their deliverance from Egyptian bondage, the command concerning the sabbath is clear; what is to be done is certain. Here, it is clearly seen (verses 9-11) that God set aside the seventh day of the first week of time and blessed it as a holy sabbath unto himself, as a memorial of his rest from the work of creation. NOW, (that is 2500 years later) because God wants the Israelites to set aside one day out of the week as a holy sabbath, he selects the seventh day as THAT day of rest because on that day he had rested from his labors in the beginning. But let it be emphasized: Because God commanded the Israelites to keep the seventh day as a holy sabbath unto him in that on this day he had rested from his creation is not saying that the

(see page 7)

SABBATH DAY (cont'd)

sabbath was to be observed by man when God set it apart for himself. No, not until the giving of the ten commandments from Mt. Sinai, embodied in the law of Moses or law of God (2 Chronicles 34:14; Ezra 7:6; Luke 2:22-24, 27, 39) was man first given the holy sabbath and commanded to observe the same. Let us summons Nehemiah as the final inspired witness on our first question. "Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right ordinances and true laws, good statutes and commandments, and madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandest them commandments, and statutes, and a law, by Moses, thy servant. (Nehemiah 9:13-14).

Now, we come to our second question: To what group of people and for what purpose was the holy sabbath given? Turning to Deuteronomy, the second account of the giving of the law of Moses, we learn from chapter 5, verses 12 and 15 that Israel or the Jews were charged "To observe the sabbath day, to keep it holy, as Jehovah thy God commanded thee... And thou shalt remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and Jehovah thy God brought thee out thence by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm: therefore (for that reason C. E. M.) Jehovah thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day." Friends, only the nation that was delivered from Egyptian bondage could keep the sabbath day in faith. It would have no meaning to any one else. Another clear and emphatic reason for the Israelites' observing the sabbath is seen in Exodus 31:12-17. Here the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, "Speak unto the Children of Israel saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep; for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that you may know that I am the Lord that does sanctify you... wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between me and the children of Israel forever..." Seventh day sabbath observance was a sign between God and fleshly Israel ONLY. God had been wonderfully good to them in delivering them from their bondage and persecution in Egypt. To all Israelites, each sabbath was to be a memorial of this rest from their bondage and persecution in Egypt. To all Israelites, each sabbath was to be a memorial of this rest from oppression as long as Israel existed as a chosen people of God. Friends, don't forget this fact: only the Jews were commanded to observe the sabbath. No other group of people was given such a memorial. This fact is further emphasized in Deuteronomy 5:2-3 as Moses speaks to Israel: Jehovah our God made a covenant with us in Horeb (Sinai), Jehovah made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day." That this covenant was the ten commandments of which the sabbath command was a part, is emphasized in Exodus 34: 27-28 where God commanded Moses to write, saying: "after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel... and he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments." In Deuteronomy 4:13, we have a similar thought expressed by Moses as he talked to the children of Israel: "And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even the ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone." Surely, we have introduced sufficient testimony to establish clearly the answer to our second question: To what group of people and for what purpose was the sabbath command given?

(cont'd next month)

ANNOUNCING - A Teachers' Training Workshop to be conducted at the Northeast Church of Christ, Greenville, S. C., July 24-27. Three teachers from Alabama Christian College will conduct it with the assistance of one of the elders of the Panama Street congregation in Montgomery, Alabama. Night sessions. Also, day sessions if sufficient interest.

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CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS!

NOYLES E. SEWELL
JOHNNY C. SEWELL

N. C. NEWS, NOTES AND 'NOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

The month of May has been a time of gospel meetings in North Carolina. As we write this report, George Bailey, one of the best known preachers in the brotherhood, is engaged in a meeting in nearby GOLDSBORO. The meeting began on Sunday, May 20, with one baptism. A singing was held that afternoon with brethren from as far away as Pike Road and Raleigh filling the building to capacity. On Monday a preacher's luncheon was attended by twelve men including two newcomers to the Carolinas Charles Chandler of Gastonia, and Bob Langston of the new Cape Fear church in Fayetteville. Incidentally, y o u may want to add to your directory the address of Bro. Langston: 4908 Cypress Rd. LaFayette Village, Fayetteville.

SOUTH MAIN in WINSTON-SALEM closed their meeting in which Neil Lightfoot did the preaching with one baptism and three restorations. Average attendance during the meeting was 230.

HICKORY'S meeting with Doyle Karrakeer preaching was well attended. Responses during May include three baptisms and three restorations. They now have near $1,500. in their building fund.

Other meetings during May - Tommy Rosenblum of Huntsville, Ala. at the BURLINGTON church. J. Harold Thomas of N.I.C.E. was with the S. FORK congregation in WINSTON-SALEM. The results of these meetings are not known at this time.

Congratulations to the Bill Sheltons of RALEIGH on the arrival of John Lee Shelton on May 10th.

Jesse Melton, evangelist o f the WILSON church reports one baptism during May. A meeting is planned there for June 11-15 with Bill Shelton of Raleigh preaching.

Greenville reports two baptisms and three restorations. They plan to start construction of the first stage of their building in early June.

Virgil Hale of Whiteville reports four responses since last report, bringing the total for the year to eight. Attendance records have been set and broken several times with 65 now being the record high.

Your news editor will be in Nashville, Tenn., Dallas, Tex. and several points in Arkansas during June 18 - July 6, reporting to the elders at West End in Nashville, attending the lectures at D L C and representing the Kinston Civitan Club at the Civitan International Convention i n Dallas, among other things...

PLEASE NOTE!
SEND YOUR REPORTS NEXT MONTH DIRECT TO CARL LANCASTER, BOX 3324, STATION A GREENVILLE, S. C.

(Following are reports as received)

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Westside Congregation
Richard Eppley, Reporting

This new congregation got off to a wonderful start with attendance for the first services on May 13th as follows: Bible study and morning worship services 103, for the afternoon singing were 138 and the evening service 75 present. The evening attendance was 100% of membership. Contribution was $175.00.

This wonderful start was considered a real reward for many of those who worked so long and hard in preparing the building for services, (and the sore muscles ached a little less). The writer estimates that 20 to 25 gals. of paint was used on and in the building beside the carpenter work a n d the mammoth clean up job. Our special thanks to those of the Plaza congregation and all others who helped in this undertaking.

Brother Burl Curtis preached for us two very appropriate sermons, leaving with us a challenge not to become complacent, to retain our enthusiasm and to be courageous in the Lord's work. We certainly are indebted to brother

Curtis for his effort in preparing and presenting these lessons and send our sincere thanks to the Northeast congregation in Greenville for permitting him to be with us on this occasion.

The day was completed by having one family come forward to make known their wish to worship with us and to take a part in this new work.

For this first Wednesday night Bible study we had in attendance 73.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C.
August C. Ruff, Reporting

The church building in Jacksonville was damaged by fire Tuesday night, May 8th, about 10 o'clock. The fire destroyed the nursery, one class room, two restrooms, the baptistry, and caused considerable damage to the interior of other classrooms and the auditorium. The estimated damage is $7,111.60.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Hoyle Burton, Reporting

The church of Christ in the Charlotte area has had much activity in planning the work of the church in the past few months. Many have shown true enthusiasm in christian work in organizing the new congregation and replanning the work of the other congregations. The Plaza has held meetings to select new teachers to replace those attending the new congregation. We are truly blessed with many capable men and women to carry on the work of those at the new congregation that started May 13th.

The West Side congregation is now situated. They held their first service and were blessed with a capacity attendance at the 3 o'clock singing. The plaza congregation was very generous in helping this work become a reality in that they contributed almost $800.00 to the new congregation.

The individual work and enthusiasm has been very good in this area and as a result the church is stronger than ever before. We have had several new families to place membership and the Gastonia congregation recently had six baptisms during a meeting held by Bro. Campbell Pullias from Memphis, Tenn.

Bro. Bill McEnerney has been selected to plan our Vacation Bible School to be held June 4-9. V B S has been a great success in the past and we are looking forward to this work as a highlight in winning souls to Christ.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

On June 17, our Gospel Meeting and V B S is to begin. On Monday afternoon, June 18, there will be a preacher's fellowship get-together in Valdese, and everyone is invited. Services are to be each evening at 7:30 with Bro. David Dymacek of Bloomington Ill., as speaker. We are hoping to break all previous attendance records.

After hearing Sis. Warder K. Novak in a Teachers' Training Class in Winston-Salem, N.C. and attending several Teachers' Training Workshops in Atlanta, Ga., your editor-poetess-writer, Mrs. Madeline C. Brown, is now venturing out into the field of lecturing. She is preparing a series of lessons under the general title of "PAINTING PICTURES WITH WORDS". The first one is called "THE CHRISTIAN WOMAN" and she has presented it to the women of the church in Lenoir, N. C., and it was well received, and enthusiastically endorsed. Several Bible School teachers from denominational groups were present and commented very favorably. Sis. Brown has invitations to present this lesson at Hickory, Spindale and Hendersonville, (and Asheville a good possibility), as soon as dates can be arranged. Interested ladies' groups in this area contact Box 72, Valdese, N. C. Her second lesson, "THE BIBLE SCHOOL TEACHER" is almost completed and will be presented in Lenoir in the very near future. These lessons are illustrated by charts which she has made up and printed to picture the facts she is presenting. Spoken words make more lasting impressions when accompanied by visible word-pictures.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C.
Carmen Walker, Reporting

The congregation which meets at North Main Street broke all previous records with its April Attendance as well as contributions. Our averages for the month were as follows: Sunday morning attendance-74, and contributions $212.

One was baptized during the past month.

The North Main, Jericho and Corinth congregations have been blending their

voices on Tuesday nights in a singing class. Special efforts are being made to develop future song leaders, therefore the young people have been particularly encouraged to attend. These classes are being conducted in homes.

Two of our brethren spoke at the Lord's day services of the Lexington congregation on May 13 while their regular evangelist, Brother Winters, was out of town.

HICKORY, N. C.
Clay Henderson, Reporting

Interest & attendance are increasing at Hickory. We have set several records and have broken them recently. Since our last report, we broke our record for Sunday morning with 94 present April 22. Then April 29 we had 95 present.

Our meeting with Doyle Karraker of River Rouge. Mich. began May 13. On that day we set a record with 91 in Bible School; 99 for the preaching service. We are grateful for the way that the Valdese and Lenoir churches are supporting this meeting by dismissing their evening services during the meeting and attending at Hickory. Bro. Karraker continues to bring inspiring messages each evening. The meeting continues through Sunday, May 20.

There were two responses May 13. April 29 there were two responses.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street Congregation
Harold Scott, Reporting

Our meeting with Bro. Carl Lancaster of Greenville, S. C. closed last Friday evening without baptisms or restorations, but with much good seed having been sown which we feel will continue to produce fruit in lives of Christians and non-Christians. The men approved plans to be sent to Raleigh for our classroom annex. As soon as they are approved by state building commission, we will begin construction. Our evangelist, Bro. Harold Scott, goes to Wilmington, N. C. for a meeting the week of June 4.

CHEROKEE, N. C.
Chester A. Hunnicutt, Reporting

A months Cherokee Indian Gospel meeting will take place in Cherokee, N. C. July 1st - July 29th. The following ministers will preach a week each. Carl Shetters, James Watson, Ermon Bain and Maurice Howell. We expect 150 personal workers. If you think that you would like to help us part of the time during the month please contact me at once. We have plenty of work for you. Men, women, boys and girls are invited.

Our attendance Sunday, May 13 was 48 A. M. and 100 P. M.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C.
Jericho Congregation
Harold L. Simmons, Reporting

The Jericho church is in its nineth year this year. One was baptized recently and two families have moved into the community increasing our attendance. Two weeks ago we had 113 for the worship at 11 o'clock.

Brother C. C. Woodroof will begin a meeting at Jericho on Sunday, June 10 and continuing through Friday night, June 15. Sunday, June 10th will be a big day for Jericho. We are planning a "dinner-on-the-grounds" following the morning worship and then a singing in the afternoon. All are invited to attend.

Pray for us in the work here at Jericho and visit us when you can.

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Johnny C. Sewell, S. C. News Editor
P. O. Box 250
Georgetown, S. C.

This month we have received bulletins and/or news reports from only 9 S. C. Congregations. These churches are located in Charleston (2), Chester, Florence, Georgetown, Spartanburg, Union, West Columbia and Williston. We are pleased that these churches are sending news items to us for publication in the C.M.T. We solicit news from all S. C. Churches of Christ and hope that each congregation will send me their church bulletins and news reports. You may address me at P. O. Box 250, Georgetown, S. C. through June 15. All news items for publication in the July issue should reach me by the above date.

The Big News of the period, April 15 through May 15, seems to be Big Meetings!

The West Columbia church conducted a meeting May 6-13 in which James S.

Woodroof of Little Rock, Arkansas was the evangelist. Brother Woodroof formerly served as the minister of the West Columbia congregation. The average attendance was approximately 180 per service. One was restored during the meeting. Others responded to the gospel invitation before and after the meeting. In connection with the meeting mentioned above, early morning services were conducted with the high attendance reaching 75. The V B S at West Columbia is planned for June 4-8. The Herald of Truth is now being televised in Columbia over channel 10 at 10:30 each Sunday. W. G. Gantt reports 3 baptisms in March and 2 baptisms and 3 restorations during April.

The Union church was engaged in a series of Gospel Meetings April 15-22 in which Milton S. Parker, The local evangelist, did the preaching. Six were baptized in this meeting. Other baptisms following the meeting and the additional members gained by Christians moving into Union speed the progress of the work there.

Harold L. Scott of Statesville, N.C. preached in a meeting with the Durant Avenue Church in North Charleston April 15-22 in which two were baptized and one was restored. Brother Scott frequently uses flannelgraph materials with which to illustrate his sermons. His effective use of these materials makes the lessons even more impressive.

Leslie G. Thomas of Asheville, N.C., the author of some 20 books on religious subjects, was with the Park Street Church in Columbia in a series of Meetings recently.

Ernest Thigpen was with the Central church of Spartanburg April 22-29 in a meeting. There has been one recent baptism outside the meeting. The morning worship attendance consistently runs above 100 with the contribution an average of $200 per week. New pews are to be installed by the end of May.

At this writing, your S.C. News Editor is preaching in a series of Gospel Meetings with the Florence church in which there have thus far been 5 baptisms and 1 restoration. It was my privilege to speak on radio stations WJMX and WOLS on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and on W.B.T.W.-T.V. Monday through Friday during the meeting.

Carl Lancaster of Greenville preached in a meeting re[illegible] the Tryon congre[illegible] were April [illegible]

The Georgetown church has selected as its next minister Elbert Schory, Jr. of Memphis, Tennessee. Brother Schory will arrive in Georgetown on June 13 bringing with him a new bride, Jane! He is to graduate from the Harding School of Bible and Religion with the M. Re. in August, having finished the academic requirements by June 1. The present minister, Johnny C. Sewell, will move to Charlotte, N.C. on May 31 to begin work with the newly established West side Congregation of that city. The Georgetown church recently appointed men to the eldership; viz., Leroy Brunorton and J. B. Holley.

Bill Howell, formerly the minister of the church in New Ellenton, recently moved to Ashburn, Ga. to work with a congregation in whose establishment he had a part. You can address him at P. O. Box 262. Brother Howell writes that he enjoys getting the C.M.T. very much. He also knows of a young man who is looking for a place to locate.

The Chester church is averaging 41 in attendance with a contribution of $70.50.

Duke Gregory, a native of Kingstree, S. C., the minister of the church in White Bluff, Tennessee, is to preach in a meeting in August with the Folly Beach church of Charleston.

The Riverside Park church in Charleston averages $193 contribution per week with 100 present for morning worship.

Sam Norman, Athletic Director of the CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP, has written all S. C. congregations asking their help in securing qualified Red Cross lady lifeguards for camp, August 12-25. If you can meet these qualifications and serve at camp, please contact brother Norman at the Dilworth congregation in Charlotte, N.C. at the earliest possible time.

WILLISTON, S. C.
Vernon C. Joines, Reporting

Brother T. A. Isaacs preached in a meeting here April 1-8. The end results were indeed gratifying; eight baptisms and two restorations. A greater interest was shown in this meeting by the people of Williston than in any previous meeting, with the largest number of visitors recorded to date.

During the months of March and April there was a total of ten baptized and five restored.

We plan to start a teacher training series and a new convert class in the near future.

UNION, S. C.
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

The average attendance during our meeting was 100 for all the services. There was from 15 to 30 outsiders present each night. Brethren from atleast 10 other congregations attended.

Six were baptized during the meeting and two have been baptized since the meeting. In June I will preach in a mission meeting in East Tenn. The meeting with the Moore Congregation, in which I will be preaching begins July 22nd.

CHESTER, S. C.
Tom Bolick, Reporting

The Chester Church had 2 baptisms in the month of March. A young couple obeyed the gospel and have become a working part of this church. The young man is well educated in journalism and is News Director of the local radio station. We are thankful for this talent to be used in the Lord's work. A special committee has been appointed by the men to co-ordinate the work and to make suggestions as to better do the Lord's work. They are subject to the men of the church in making their suggestions. We are determined to make this church grow by each Christian carrying out the Lord's commission.

We had a fine meeting with Bro. Wayne Smith of Elizabethton, Tenn. in March. Our 5 day-a-week radio program still proves to be an excellent means to teach truth and gain respect and good will for the Lord's church.

An added attraction on the program has been very successful. On Thursday and Friday of each week, people are invited to call and ask a Bible or religious question over the air. We have had almost more than we can handle.

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP, INC.
Sam Norman, Reporting

We have been extremely fortunate to have had access to the beautiful Charlotte Observer Fresh Air Camp during the past several years. This year the Y. M.C.A. will occupy the facilities until late in August. The Board of Directors, after due consideration, felt it would be unwise to attempt to conduct the Camp too close to the opening of many schools in our area.

Plans are now being made to use a camp near Winston-Salem, North Carolina August 12 for two weeks. Under these circumstances, I am confident the majority of the people who are associated with Carolina Bible Camp, Inc., will approve the Board's actions in this matter.

Since we desperately need men and women life guards this year, I am requesting that you assist me in locating qualified Red Cross life guards or Water Safety Instructors. We are authorized to pay for this service, if it becomes necessary. Previously, all Water Safety personnel contributed their time.

Please make this announcement in your church paper or use any convenient way that will get the message across to as many people as possible. Ask them to contact me immediately.

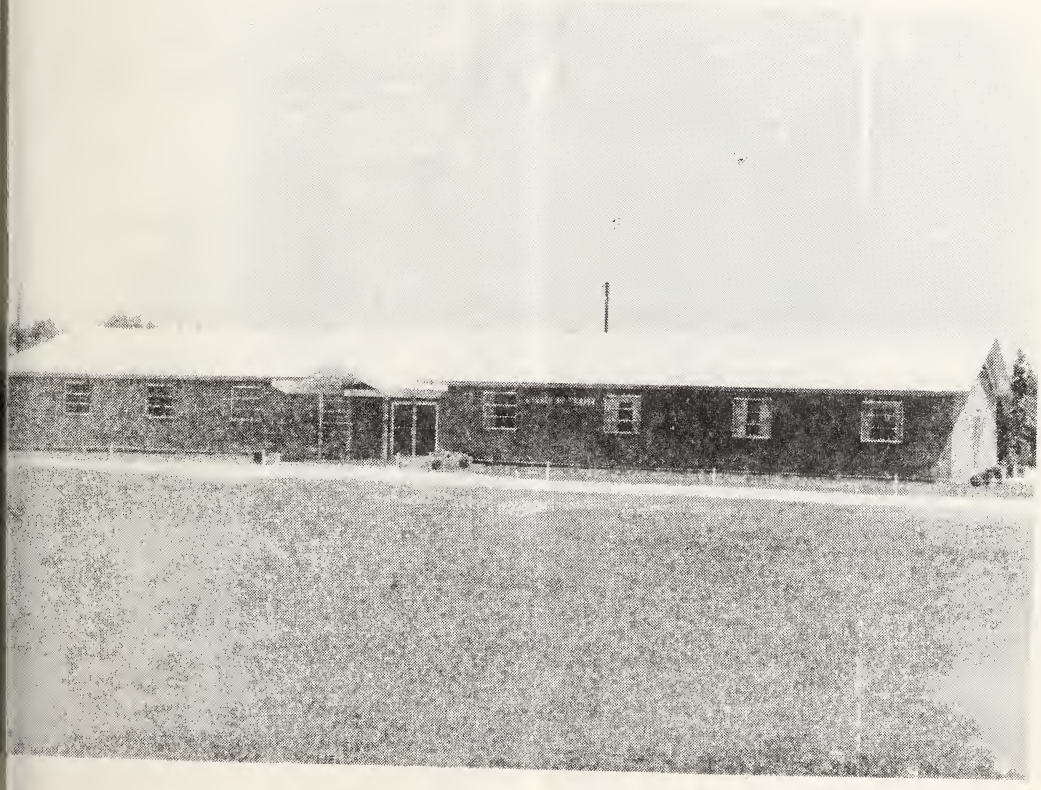
HARDING EXTENSION PROGRAM
By Johnny C. Sewell

Questionaires were sent to all preachers in North and South Carolina of which we have a record recently regarding the Harding College Extension Program which can begin in Charlotte, N.C. in September if the interest is sufficient. Thus far, the following people have stated that they were definitely interested in this course of study: Elton English, Tryon, N. C., Charles Gentry, Charlotte, N. C., Johnny C. Sewell, Georgetown, S. C., Clay Henderson, Hickory, N. C., Harold Scott, Statesville, N.C., J.B. Whitaker, Rockingham, N. C., Olan Hicks, High Point, N.C. and Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C. If you have not returned your questionnaire, please do so right away whether or not you are in a position to take advantage of this opportunity. If you are interested in this course of study, but did not get a questionaire, please write the S.C. News Editor for further information. At least 12 more students are needed.

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"Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding." Proverbs 17:28

Carolina
MESSENGER OF TRUTH



NEW BUILDING OF EDGEWOOD (FORMERLY JUDSON)
CHURCH OF CHRIST, GREENVILLE, S. CAROLINA

JULY 1962

BE NOT WEARY IN WELL DOING

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

In so many places in the Carolinas it is very easy to grow weary in well doing. How does the Lord look upon this?

Paul, the apostle, wrote in Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." We have no difficulty understanding this clear statement. If we read it again, we are simple more greatly impressed with the truth we first read. Our difficulty is in obeying the command given by Paul.

One of the great hindrances to the growth of the church of Christ is becoming "weary in well doing." How many have fallen by the wayside because they became tired, fatigued and irked at problems which they met in living the Christian life? Should we not rather remember the following encouraging words from the Lord?

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things (food, clothing and drink) shall be added unto you. Matt. 6:33. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how MUCH MORE shall your Father in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?" Matt. 7:11. "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore; ye are of more value than many sparrows." Lk. 12: 6,7. "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have, for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may BOLDLY say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." Heb. 13:6,7. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.

Please notice that Paul made "reaping" dependent upon four conditions which must be met. (1) Be not weary. Do not become irked at the efforts you must put forth to live the godly life. (2) We must engage in well doing. The only way the Lord can say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," is if the servant has done well. (3) In due season. If we will work patiently and faithfully we will reap in due time. (4) If we faint not. There will be no reaping if we "pass out" of the race and quit.

Are you guilty of disobeying Paul's command, "Be not weary in well doing"? If so, please confess it. Recognize that it is wrong to be weary in doing well. Strongly determine that in the future you are going to endure until the due season of reaping comes. Let no one shake you from your desire to be faithful until death. Then you can have the full assurance that you will read eternal life.

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THE SABBATH DAY (cont'd from last month) -- C. E. Mannon, Greenville, N. C.

Now, we proceed to answer the third and concluding question: How long was the seventh day sabbath to be observed by the Israelites as a holy day unto Jehovah? Would there be a time when this command would be no longer binding? The simplist answer is that sabbath observance would last as long as that covenant or law of which it was a part lasted. When the covenant was abolished the command itself was abolished and no longer binding. When this ten commandment covenant, or law of Moses was abolished will be our point of discussion just now.

It should not be necessary to elaborate further upon the fact that this 10 commandment covenant or law of Moses, given on Sinai, was not for all people, nor was it for all time. We have already learned that it was a covenant restricted solely to the Israelites. Now let us turn to Jeremiah 31:31-34 and read concerning the passing away of this covenant: "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah; Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt: which covenant they brake, although I was a husband unto them, saith the Lord: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall by my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord; for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity; and I will remember their sin no more." Turning to the New Testament and speaking of Christ, the Hebrew writer declared in Hebrews 8:6-7 that "he is the mediator of a better covenant which was established upon better promises," and adds, "for if the first covenant had been faultless, then should no place been sought for the second." Beginning in verse 8 of the 8th chapter of Hebrews. the writer quotes Jeremiah's prophecy to establish the fact that the covenant which had been abolished, made old, superceded, or replaced by a new and better covenant, established upon better promises, is that one which was given Moses on Sinai upon Israel's deliverance from Egypt--the ten commandment covenant with its attending ceremonies and ordinances. Thue, we understand, as Paul taught in II Corinthians 3:6-14 that this law "written and engraven on tables of stone" was done away in Christ. Paul teaches us how this was accomplished in Colossians 2:14-16. Speaking of Christ, Paul wrote that he "blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; and having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Then he adds: "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a holy day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days; which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ. Again, in Hebrews 7, the writer, discussing the priesthood of Christ, gave emphasis to the fact that there being a change of priesthood, there is of necessity made a change also of the law (verse 12). That this law embraced the sabbath command is a fact made clear from Romans 7:4-7. Here, the Apostle Paul, reasoning that Christians, "are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead," identifies that law from which we have been delivered as that one including the commandment, "Thou shalt not covet." My friends, with what other law is the sabbath command identified? From these words of inspiration, the fact is forever established that we are no longer subject to the law of Moses, of which the sabbath was a part. Not even the Jews, to whom the law was specifically given, are bound

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to observe this law. Furthermore, those who would be justified by the law are severed from Christ and are fallen from grace. (Galatians 5:4) "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law, ye are fallen from grace."

Thus far, we have learned that the sabbath command was given to a particular people (Jews) at a particular time and place (Sinai after deliverance from bondage) for a particular purpose (memorial of rest from oppression in Egypt). We have learned that when the covenant of which the sabbath was a part, was done away, the sabbath command was also abolished. We have learned that this was accomplished in the death of Christ upon the cross. He took away the first covenant that he might establish the second. He came to fulfill the law of the 10 commandments (Matthew 5:17-18), and he did fulfill it--and it has been taken away! Unto that second covenant, will, or testament, established by Christ, we are subject today. The law of the 10 commandments, of which sabbath keeping was a part, was never intended for Christians, but for Jews only, and even if it were in effect, it would not be applicable to most of us, being Gentiles in the flesh and not Jews! Strange indeed is the fact that people want that which was never intended for them in the first place.

Having reached these conclusions from a scriptural investigation of the sabbath question, certain questions are in order concerning the sabbath as reference is made thereto in the New Testament. We notice these because of the effort that is sometimes made to read the sabbath command into every New Testament passage where the words sabbath, command(s), or law are used. In Luke 13:10, it is said of Jesus that he was "teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath day," and the conclusion is reached that Jesus kept the sabbath day--and indeed he did, just like he kept other ordinances of the law of Moses (cf. Luke 2:22-24, 27, 39, or Matthew 26:18). Being of Jewish lineage, Jesus was born under and lived by the law containing the sabbath command. Remember that it was in Jesus' death that he took the law, with its sabbath observance, out of the way. Most of us, being Gentiles in the flesh, not born under the Law, do not live under it, and are not, (and never were) subject to it. Therefore, we do not keep the sabbath because Jesus kept it any more than we keep a big passover feast because Jesus kept it. Incidentially Christians, (preachers included) need to learn that while the Old Testament covenant was a law of meritorious works demanding a perfection that none could attain (for all under the law stood condemned, Galatians 3:10-11), the grace and truth that came by Jesus Christ (John 1:17) in his "gospel of our salvation," (Ephesians 1:13) is still a law--"the law of faith (Romans 3:27), "the law of Christ," (Galatians 6:2), "the perfect law of liberty." (James 1:25). It is just what the Sabbatarians want when one attempts to make "law" always refer to the Old Testament covenant. And, whenever he reads about commandments, this must surely mean the ten commandments! When you read and quote verses like I John 5:2-3, Revelation 22:14, even Ecclesiastes 12:13, what is meant if you cannot tolerate the idea of "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:2) being the gospel of Christ (Romans 1:16), given "for obedience to the faith among all nations?" (Romans 1:5; 16:26). The fact that we preach "the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24) does not allow us to ignore or to speak reproachfully of those commands to be obeyed in order to enjoy those promises conditioned upon our faith in the Saviour being made perfect in obedience. It is with this understanding of the gospel that we are to preach repentance and baptism (Acts 2:38) upon the confession of our faith in Christ (Acts 8:36-39)--and every other command that involves the saved--those added to the church. (Acts 2:47) - "going on unto perfection." (Hebrews 6:1) In our preaching Christ, let us beware of separating the "Saviour" from the "Way"

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or "faith" from "obedience," for both are essential to our proving the sincerity of our love and to our entering upon and abiding in the grace of God.

In Mark 2:27-28, Jesus said unto them "that the sabbath was made for man and not man for the sabbath. Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath." Here, Jesus taught the Jews that the rigid observance of the sabbath was passing--yielding to man for whom it was made, not man yielding to the sabbath. And the son of man, being Lord of the sabbath, had power to take it away. In Matthew, chapter 24, Jesus talked at length about the approaching destruction of Jerusalem and her temple. He warned Christians to flee when danger approached. He charged them to pray that their flight be not in the winter, nor on the sabbath day. You ask why? Not because Christians were observing the law of Moses or would be violating the sabbath to flee, but because the Jewish authorities would still be enforcing the law. While the law to keep the sabbath would have been abolished by Christ's death, the Jewish state was maintained by leaders who did not accept Christ's gospel. The Jewish authorities therefore were still enforcing or observing the sabbath, and the gates of the city would be locked, the exits closed, and their flight would be delayed, it not made impossible. Jesus was discussing the safety of the disciples and the hindrances to their flight, not the observance of the sabbath.

Now we come to notice something about the Apostle Paul and the sabbath. In the book of Acts, numerous references are made to the effect that Paul visited the synagogues on the sabbath day and preached unto the people there gathered. Having learned of Paul's thus preaching, the question is sometimes asked: "Why was Paul preaching on the sabbath if we are not to observe it today?" The purpose of Paul's going into the synagogues was not to keep the sabbath, not to worship with the Jews, who did not believe that Jesus was the Christ, but he seized the opportunity of these occasions to preach the gospel of Christ. With a numerous host of people gathering in the synagogues, the wisdom of Paul's action is seen, in that he was able to reach many people with the gospel. Surely, if Paul had been preaching Judiasm which included observance of the sabbath, the Jews would not have been filled with envy and spoken against those things which were spoken of Paul, contradicting and blaspheming to the extent that Paul said: "It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you; but seeing ye have put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles." (Acts 13:44-46) Instead of Paul's approving the law of Moses (including the sabbath command) he rather condemned it saying in Acts 13:39 "that in Christ all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." How could Paul be said to observe the sabbath and then teach to the contrary on so many occasions as we have noted in this study?

One more question to be considered: If the ten commandments were abolished in the passing of the old law, does that mean that people can now steal, kill, and do all the things which the ten commandments prohibit, or refuse to do the things they bound? The answer is an emphatic NO. Of the ten commandments making up the old covenant, nine are included in the new covenant by our Lord with punishment promised, not only for the overt act of wrong doing, but also for the evil of heart that leads to the crime. (e.g. Matthew 5:27-28) The nine commandments included by Jesus in his perfect law of liberty were not so included because they were in the old covenant. They were right before they were placed there, for the sins forbidden were basically wrong in any generation and for any people. Even in the days of Cain and Abel, it was wrong to murder, thus the things bound in the law were designed to regulate the society of the Jews during the tenure of the law of Moses, many of which laws were good for any people at

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Carolina

Augu

THE time for the sixth annual CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP is fast approaching! If you have not sent in your application, TODAY is the time you should do it! We hope this year's encampment will be the best yet in all respects. You want to be in on all the advantages of this year's camp! Don't miss out on all the fun! Send in your application today!

THE BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAINS WILL GREET YOU

The beautiful mountains will greet you at the entrance of the 1962 Carolina Bible Camp! Imagine how beautiful this will be in Mid-August! To reach camp, go north on U. S. 52 about one mile past Rural Hill. Take N. C. 66, the first paved road to the right past Rural Hill, and go about eight miles. Turn left at the highway marker, a wagon wheel easily seen, and drive three miles on the paved road to Camp Hanes, the site of the 1962 Carolina Bible Camp!

EACH CAMPER IS CHECKED SEVERAL TIMES EACH DAY

The staff of the Carolina Bible Camp is very capable, composed largely of Gospel preachers and their wives who take a genuine interest in the total welfare of each camper. The presence and physical welfare of each camper is checked ten or more times during each day. The counselors check the presence of their campers just as you would do if you were there. A camp nurse is on duty at all hours and medical attention, provided by the camp, is immediately available when needed.

YOUTH ARE TRAINED IN THE WAY OF THE LORD

The heart of the camp is the training of youth in the way of the Lord. Daily the campers give attention to Bible lessons presented by preachers of the gospel. Each camper receives two Bible lessons, a singing class, a chapel service, an evening worship service and a night devotional each full day he is at camp. The showing of the spirit and word of Christ to the campers in word, song and deed is a goal of Carolina Bible Camp. We are dedicated to the continuance of the highest of Christian ideals at Carolina Bible Camp. The Directors have pledged themselves to uphold the following policies in the operation of the camp: (1) The primary aim of the Carolina Bible Camp shall be to

ible Camp

2-25

develop the spiritual life of the campers. (2) This shall be done first of all by the teaching of God's word. (3) In the daily activities of the camp, opportunity shall be provided for the application of God's word in the actual life of the campers. In work, in worship and in recreation, the camper shall be guided in applying the principles of the Lord. (4) For the benefit of all, the following rules must be observed: a. The wearing of immodest apparel (including shorts of any kind) will not be allowed. b. No dancing, of any description, will be permitted. c. Boys and girls will swim at separate periods. d. Smoking will not be permitted at camp. e. Campers and staff will be expected to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner at all times.

GOOD FOOD AND PLENTY OF ACTIVITY

A $65,000 building houses the Dining Hall and Recreation Hall. Mrs. Edna Binkley, who has much experience at camp and in the public schools, will be Dietician this year. Nurishing, wholesome food will be served three times a day!

The athletic program will include swimming, boating, badminton, croquet, soft ball, ping pong, shuffle board, archery, etc. Rainy day programs are being planned so that the fun goes on regardless of the weather.

The popular handicraft department is to be expanded this year... and the canteen will be open as usual!

APPLICATION FOR A VACATION OF SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT AND ENJOYMENT

Name _____ Boy_____ Girl _____ Age _____

Street address _____ City & State _____

Telephone number _____ I wish to come for the first week only _____

I wish to come for the second week only _____ I wish to come for both weeks _____

Send the above application TODAY with registration fee of $3 to: C. W. Bradley, Secretary, 3224 Arlington Drive, Winston-Salem, N. C. Total cost is $15.50 per week.

Worship services will be conducted on Sunday evenings at 7:30. Parents and visitors are invited to stay and worship with the campers. Wroship services will be conducted morning and evening on August 19. Arrive at camp by 4:30! We are looking for you.

SABBATH DAY (cont'd)

any time. Therefore, it is not a question of waht is in the old but what is in the new covenant. And friends, notice that the one commandment of the old law conspicious by its absence in the new covenant is the fourth one, "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy." It is not binding today! And those who insist on its observance impose a burden heavy to be borne, seemingly unaware of what the slightest violation of the sabbath meant. See Numbers 15:32-36.

We are not to conclude, however, that there is no day of the week outstanding to the Christian. While we may worship the Lord acceptably any day of the week and strive to live a holy life every day, that day of particular significance to the Christian is not the seventh day, the Jewish sabbath, or Saturday, but the first day of the week, known to us as Sunday, or more appropriately the Lord's day. (Revelation 1:10; I Corinthians 16:2) When we know that it was on the first day of the week that Christ arose from the dead (Luke 24:1), and was then declared to be the Son of God with power (Romans 1:4), appeared to his disciples on this day (Luke 24), the church was established on this day (Acts 2; Leviticus 23:15-16), early Christians met upon the first day to worship (Acts 20:7; 2:42), the Lord's day has a wonderful meaning to all Christians. For those who have become Christians in obedience to the Lord's gospel, and have lived faithful, consistent Christian lives, there remains a rest--an eternal rest (Hebrews 4:9) of which the Old Testament sabbath was a type. "Let us labor therefore to enter into this rest."

PLEASE send change of address as soon as possible. This saves expense and assures you that you will not miss a copy of the Messenger.

Also, if you know of anyone who has failed to receive the magazine, please let us know so that the correction can be made.

Let Us Improve Vacation Bible Schools

By Alan M. Bryan

Each year more and more congregations are realizing the values to be gained from conducting a Vacation Bible School. In fact, many congregations are now conducting two different schools during summer months. Usually one school is held during the morning hours at one time during the summer and the other is held possibly at night later in the summer.

We rejoice in the fact that more and more congregations are having Vacation Bible Schools. Such schools offer valuable teaching opportunities that ought to be used by every congregation if at all possible. There is a great need, however, in improving the various schools now being conducted. Better teaching must come from these schools and such improved teaching will only come if a conscious effort is made to improve all phases of the Vacation Bible School.

Many suggestions to improve our schools might be given, but we list only a few that might be easily carried out. Check your school and see if these suggestions can apply to the school conducted by the congregation where you worship.

1. *Select the teaching staff early.* Teachers should be selected three or four months in advance if possible. It is best usually to allow those teaching in the regular teaching program to teach in the same age or grade during the school.

2. *Train the teachers.* As part of a training program a congregation would do well to have one all-day VBS involving every teacher if possible, to launch other phases of the training program. In addition at least three or four more teacher meetings for the entire staff should be held to thoroughly orientate all concerned on records to be kept, teaching methods to be used, handwork and other supplies to be used.

3. *Publicize the VBS thoroughly.* This can be done in many ways — all good means of publicity should be used if at all possible. News stories should be taken to all local newspapers and radio stations. If possible, pictures of teachers preparing materials should accompany news paper stories. Some congregations are using the windows of department stores to display an effective appeal for the school. Cards and letters should be mailed to several times as many prospects as could be expected to respond. The church bulletin and public announcements will do much to assist in publicizing the school but these means should not be depended on entirely.

Some congregations map off the town or community served by the congregation and actually knock on each house to pre-enroll pupils. To assist in this pre-enrollment campaign every person in the regular Bible school should be given four or five enrollment cards and asked to enroll those available among their acquaintenances or neighborhood.

4. *Provide transportation.* Every available car should be enlisted to pick up those who need a ride. If possible buses should be rented and routed in order to pick up every available student. Wide publicity should be given

(see page 11)

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS!

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

PANTEGO, N. C.
Pike Road Congregation
Jesse Condra, Reporting

One was baptized and two were restored in April. V B S is to be June 11-15. Our meeting begins July 30th with R. C. Walker of Radford, Va. doing the preaching.

WOODLEAF, NORTH CAROLINA
Corinth Church of Christ
Ottis L. Qualls, Reporting

During May we had one baptism and one restoration at Corinth. This month an elderly lady who was baptized many years ago was restored. Bro. Theaddus Trichard who was to begin work with this congregation in June moved to Va. Our Vacation Bible School will be in progress the last of June and a gospel meeting begins in July with Brother J. Farris Baird of Statesville doing the preaching. The new building here at Corinth is nearing completion. We have yet to purchase furniture and a heating system for the new building.

JACKSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
August Ruff, Reporting

The church here has made steady progress since May 8 when a portion of our building was destroyed by fire. The insurance company settled the estimated damages of $7,000 with $3,000. This money is being used to reconstruct a new classroom and restroom facilities. Both our attendance and contribution have increased since the fire also.

There was one restoration during the month of May.

I just completed a meeting for the Liberty church of Christ near Jasper, Alabama. We had ten baptisms during the meeting.

Our gospel meeting will begin July 8 and go through the 17. Bro. Paul Vining, from Huntsville, Alabama, will do the preaching. Services will be held each night at 7:30.

MOCKSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
Jericho Church of Christ
Harold L. Simmons, Reporting

Our meeting with Brother C. H. Woodroof ended last evening with no visible results. Attendance was good and the seed planted which should bring results later. He is truly a man with much ability. Any congregation would do well to have him conduct a series of meetings.

A Vacation Bible School was conducted for the first time this year at Jericho. We had good response from the neighborhood children and the interest was the best. We concluded the Bible School with a service on Friday night and at least half of the adult audience were not members of the church. We averaged 65 during the week.

I have resigned the work here effective in September. No man has been named to follow me. They are desirious of contacting a preacher who has a good knowledge of music. If you would like to locate in this section of the Carolinas, your letters of inquiry would be welcome. Send to Clarence Forrest, Route 1, Mocksville, North Carolina.

TRYON, NORTH CAROLINA
Elton English, Reporting

The work here in Tryon is progressing nicely at this time. We have just closed a vacation Bible school in which interest was high and attendance good. On Saturday, June 29th, the picnic was enjoyed by both students and parents.

Attendance last Sunday was thirty-five which is a little below our regular number. Several people were sick and unable to be present. We are hoping everyone will soon recover and be in worship again.

Since the last report two have been baptized. We are very happy that the Lord is blessing our work.

The brethren are planning a radio program. Our plans are to be on the air five days a week. We hope this can be arranged within the next two months.

SPINDALE, NORTH CAROLINA
Chester N. Womack, Reporting

The church in Spindale is planning a series of gospel meetings July 8-13. Bro. John Holland of Old Hickory, Tennessee, will do the preaching. Services will be each night at 7:30 p.m. There will be a singing Sunday, July 8, at 3:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School will also be held July 9-13 at 10:00-11:30 a.m.

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Johnny C. Sewell, S. C. News Editor
5333 Manning Road
Charlotte 6, N. C.

On May 31 your S. C. News Editor, at the conclusion of four years and five months of most pleasant work with the Lord's church in Georgetown, S. C., moved to Charlotte, N. C. to serve as the minister of the new Westside congregation.

The church in Union reports an average contribution of $202.38 per Sunday for the month of May. On May 20 the S. S. Attendance was 106 with a morning worship attendance of 114.

On may 13 the church in Chester broke its old attendance record. The old record of 57 was replaced by 62.

J. B. Whitaker, minister of the Rockingham, N.C. church will speak on July 16 to the teachers of the Florence congregation. The teachers will meet at a local restaurant for supper and after the meal brother Whitaker will speak. The Florence V.B.S. begins July 23. A "What Is the Church of Christ?" class is also now being conducted by this church, which class especially deals with first principles helpful to new converts.

The Central church of Spartanburg, S. C. has recently installed new pews in the auditorium. They have purchased a new mimeograph machine which does very excellent work and with which they have printed V.B.S. cards and certificates and so forth. This fine church is providing clothing for a child in one of the homes operated by members of the church of Christ. They also contribute monthly to the new work in Spindale, N. C. The Central V. B. S. was scheduled June 11-15. The theme of the study was, "The Home In Which I Live."

It will be of interest to our readers who may know Paul T. Dunn, who formerly preached with the Riverside Park congregation in Charleston, to learn that he has recently moved to Crystal Rivers in Florida where he will be preaching for a new congregation.

Bob Carrell and Melvin Allen are to preach at Durant Avenue in Charleston in the absence of Billy Davidson who is presently on vacation.

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
Edgewood Drive Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, Reporting

Since our last news report we have had one to be baptized, four to confess wrong and four to place membership. For the past five months we have been in a building program, and we are happy to report that our new church building is now complete and we have begun meeting and worshipping God regularly in it. This congregation was formerly known as the Judson church of Christ, and for forty years had met in a building located on the corner of Vermont Avenue and Marble Street near Judson Mill.

The first services in our new building were on June 24th. On that day we had 151 present for Bible Study and 227 in attendance for the morning worship service. The contribution was $318.05. All of these were record figures for us. We had a special opening day service at 3 p.m. and a very fine number was present. Also, many attended open house which was from 4 to 5 p.m.

We are all greatly pleased with our new building. We know the Lord has wonderfully blessed us and our efforts, and it is our desire to give to Him all the praise and thanksgiving we can for His countless blessings. We feel that an excellent job was done by Bro. Charles Hicks, who was in charge of our building program, and by the construction company. We appreciate the many favorable comments which have been made by those who have visited with us. We believe we shall have many advantages in this new location. The building is closer into the heart of town, it can be found easily, the grounds are spacious--over three and one-half acres--and the building is attractive both inside and outside. Too, this first unit has been built in such a way that the auditorium can be easily converted into classroom space when we get into position to build the second unit which will contain a large

auditorium and such other rooms as are necessary. Our new address will be church of Christ, 200 Edgewood Drive, Greenville, S. C. To locate our building, come out Highway 29 South and turn right on the third street past Mills Mill.

We plan a gospel meeting for July 8th through 15th with different ministers of the church in this area doing the preaching. Also, we have scheduled a Vacation Bible School for July 30th through August 3rd. It will be at night from 7:30 to 9 p.m. We covet the prayers of all faithful Christians

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

New records were set in V B S that just closed here recently. 210 enrolled and attendance averaged 183. 64% of this year's students came from families not members of churches of Christ.

Within the last two or three months six families at Augusta Road have been transferred to other locations in the states or overseas. During June attendance averaged 112 for Bible Study and 133 for morning worship.

Our newspaper articles are now appearing in each issue of the Laurens Newspaper. Our radio program is scheduled to begin there July 30 and the tent meeting is to begin with a singing August 5. A Nashville, Tenn. congregation recently decided to send a preacher to work full time in Laurens in the interest of a church there. The man then decided to go elsewhere. However we have strong reason to believe that support will be available as soon as a man is found to work in Laurens.

The fall meeting at Augusta Road is scheduled for Oct. 28 - Nov. 4 with Bro. Willard Conchin preaching.

LET US IMPROVE (cont'd)

to parents that free transportation will be provided for any student and great care will be taken for the safety of all who come.

5. *Order sufficient literature and supplies.* Most Vacation Bible Schools will have at least as many pupils as the total number in the regular Bible school. Of course, many adults who ordinarily attend Bible school are not present, but this number should be more than replaced by children that will be reached if sufficient planning and preparation is made. These supplies should be ordered at least a month or six weeks before the actual time for the school.

6. *Plan an actual time schedule.* After consulting teachers and supervisors a time schedule should be worked out. It will help the school if this schedule is mimeographed and handed out to the congregation a week or two before the school is to start.

7. *Conserve all materials and supplies.* After the school is over, all left over materials and supplies should be collected and sorted carefully. Many items can be used immediately in the regular teaching program. Some may be returned to the supplier and other materials need to be packed and stored until the next school.

8. *Conserve all results.* The enrollment and attendance cards of all students should be quickly collected, sorted, classified and studied when the school is over. A letter should be sent to all parents who are not members of the church but have allowed their children to attend. Appreciation should be expressed and an invitation to allow these children to attend the Bible school regularly should be extended. Bible school teachers, personal workers, as well as the elders and deacons should study the cards very carefully to find families or prospects that need to be visited.

9. *Expect problems and plan for their solution.* Most difficulties arise because of failure to properly plan. This is a reflection on those who conduct the school. This is part of the Lord's work and should be done efficiently and effectively! When properly done tremendous results come. When poorly planned many opportunities are lost.

10. *Ask God's help in prayer.* As each phase of the school is planned or conducted many prayers should be expressed asking the Lord's blessings. Each teacher should pray earnestly for the Lord's help and for His blessings after the job is done. Each pupil should be prayed for and great results will come! No Vacation Bible School should ever be held without fervent and frequent prayers!

WE UNDERSTAND THAT --

the 1963 Carolina Lectures will be held in Union, S. C.
the dates of the 1963 Blue Ridge Encampment are June 24-28.
interest is running high in the Carolina Bible Camp this year.
a "great mission effort" is beginning in Laurens, S. C.
the Augusta Road congregation in Greenville will begin a tent meeting in Laurens, August 5. Such a good effort is worthy your best support.

Something's WRONG?

IF YOU DO NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY

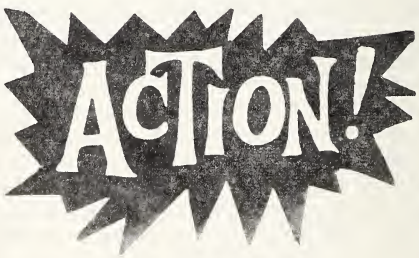
In keeping with one item of our EDITORIAL POLICY, "To inform others of mission opportunities in the Carolinas," we will send one year's free subscription to the first 50 ELDERS whose names and addresses are sent to us. Many elders are unaware of the needs in these two states. You can help by performing this little deed. The rules are simple.

1. Send name and address of an elder of the Lord's church. Send as many names as you like. The first 50 to reach us will be used.

2. You must KNOW that this man is now actively engaged in the work of the eldership.

3. This offer closes September 1, 1962.

WE NEED MEN OF.....
TO REACH THE CAROLINAS WITH
THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.



ANNOUNCING - A Teacher Training Workshop to be conducted in Greenville, S. C., July 24-27 at 7:30 PM. The building at 2101 Poinsett Highway will be used for this Workshop. Everyone is welcome!

After a short general session, the classes will be held as follows:

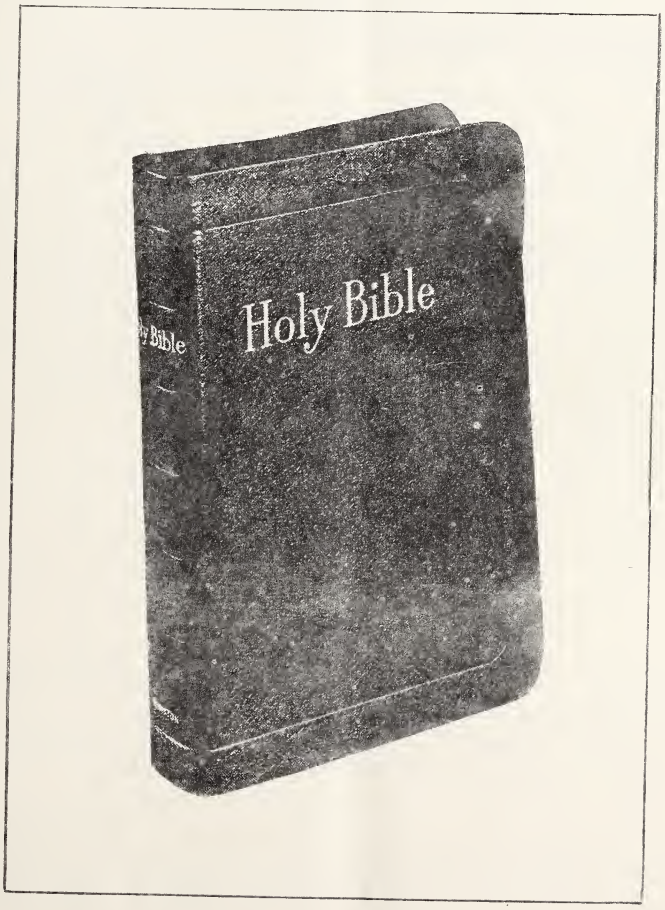
Those interested in teaching Pre-school -- Mrs. R. V. Burt
" " " " Elementary -- Mrs. T. W. Weaver
" " " " High School & Adult -- Thomas Weaver

NOTICE - All these teachers are from Alabama Christian College.

COME SEE the displays, charts, material, film strips, new ideas, etc.

Carolina

MESSENGER OF TRUTH



AUGUST, 1962

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

Thousands in Pickens County, S. C. have never heard the pure gospel of Christ. The responsibility to carry the gospel to them is ours. Who is willing to go?

Pickens County has a population of 40,030 with Easley, Pickens (County Seat), Liberty and Central being the principal towns. Other towns include Norris, Dacusville, Rocky Bottom, Six Mile and Cateechee. There is only one small congregation of the Lord's church in the entire county.

Pickens has an approximate population of 2,500 and no church of Christ. Liberty (pop. 2,657) and Central (pop. 1,473) are in the same condition. The only congregation is located at Easley (pop. 8,283).

Some members of the church of Christ have lived in Pickens County for many years. They had to drive to Seneca, Anderson, Greenville or other places to assemble with the saints. In 1960 a small group decided to begin meeting in Easley, S. C. They first met on Sunday afternoon so that preachers from nearby congregations could help them with the teaching. The place of assembly was one side of a large dwelling house at 205 East Main St. After some time had passed, the time of services was changed to Sunday morning and local brethren assumed the teaching responsibility with an occasional visiting preacher.

The congregation has now changed its meeting place to a small block building at the back of the residence at 205 East Main St. There are about 20 members with a total attendance of about 30. The contribution is about $35.00 each Sunday.

So very much needs to be done in Pickens County. Who is responsible to teach these 40,000 souls? Just one of them is worth more than all earthly wealth. As far as we know, the seed has never been sown here. Who will go up and down and across this county and so preach that all Pickens County will hear the word of Christ?

One place to begin would be Easley where the church already meets. These brethren would welcome the help of a full-time preacher. Is there not some congregation somewhere that would investigate this field and support a capable preacher in Pickens County?

At the very minimum, Pickens County should have a strong congregation in every major town. Any plan less than this would be very short-sighted. The Lord's plan is to take the gospel to every creature and over 40,000 of them are in this county and so few have ever heard.

Remember, send your change of address as soon as possible!

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
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Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Billy Davidson, S. C. News Editor
Joe Costilow, Art Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
Preparation for mailing by members of the church in Greenville, S. C.

* *

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* *

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MONEY:
the crucible of souls

IT IS ASTONISHING how much the Bible says of money! The characters of men are more thoroughly developed by money than by any other means. It is the hottest crucible in which man's soul can be placed.

Man is a steward. Nothing that he possesses is his own. The title to not a foot of land lies in him. It lies in the throne of God, and the occupier is nothing but a tenant—a mere tenant at will—bound to use every penny of his estate for God's glory, and to render a strict account at last.

What a light does Christ's own conduct throw upon his doctrine! Men pride themselves in their wealth. Did Christ? Where was he born, and how did he live? And when upon his cross, how did he act towards his mother, the being of all others of the race whom he loved best? Did he say to Joseph of Arimathea, "Behold thy mother?" No, No! It was to John, the poor, penniless disciple to whom he commended her.

He who could have commanded the mountains to pour forth their riches for her use bequeathed his dearest relative to the care of a portionless son, thus throwing a signal rebuke upon those who will not trust God, parting with their substance at his command.

Let the great doctrine of stewardship be preached. Let men know the tenure by which they hold their property. Then if the Master calls for a given sum by presenting to us the need, the means will be forthcoming; and a man will withhold it on the peril of his soul.

The Pre-School Bible Class Teacher

Madeline Brown
Valdese, N. C.

Speaking from experience, these little tots can really learn much in Bible school even just one session per week. I teach that age group, and since our congregation is very small, the ages in that class include babies on up through age 6. Sometimes it is hard to teach so as to interest the six-year-old and in such a way that the two-year-olds can benefit from the teaching. But I have found to teach on the higher intelligence level is better because the smaller ones absorb much of the lessons, and when I teach "baby teaching" the older children are not interested.

We have a little girl just two years old in our class, and she knows every word of the songs we sing and sings them every time, which includes four or five songs. Even the smallest one knows what a Bible is and that God speaks to us through it. They also know that when we pray we are talking to God. Each child says a prayer every Sunday, and they talk like they are really talking to their Father, and not to an unknown Being. They are spontaneous thoughts, not memory verses.

To me, this class is the most interesting and the most challenging one in the Bible school and I would not trade it for any other. It is constantly on my mind and I am always searching for better ways to teach them God's Word. With each lesson I plan varied activities pertaining to the lesson, as they tire very quickly of one, and are ready to go on to another. The older ones are very proud to have something to take home to "show daddy and mother" and I try to have something extra besides the lesson sheet for them to take home.

The first six years of a child's life are very important--perhaps the most important of his life in regards to lasting impressions and remembered facts. For that reason, I feel a tremendous responsibility in teaching this age group. No teacher should take his or her job lightly, but the very first teacher a child has in the Bible school must be very dedicated to the work and to God. A child can sense the teacher's feelings and attitudes and the teacher will get from the child reactions in accordance with what she puts into the lesson. A teacher who demands attention gets it, one who sings gets singing from the children, and they love finger plays and action songs. We have a "quiet time" every Sunday morning while I open the door and post the attendance on the chart, at which time one can hear a pin drop. I do this near the end of the period and they really enjoy this break and inactivity when they sit perfectly still for a few seconds.

In closing, I would like to say, oh, you sisters who have never tried to teach a class, you just can't imagine what you are missing! It builds one's faith, increases one's knowledge and all in all, it is just plain WONDERFUL to have the privilege of teaching little ones.

BOOK "CAROLINA PULPIT"

Bill Smith reports that the following men have been selected as a result of the wishes of the preachers in each state.

For North Carolina, C. W. Bradley and Willard Conchin. For South Carolina, the highest three were O. P. Baird, Carl Lancaster and Burl Curtis. Since Bro. Baird is leaving the Carolinas the two for S. C. will be the next highest.

This committee is responsible for selecting the editor of the book, selecting a fifth man to serve on the committee and receiving and examining the manuscripts for the book.

Sufficient time will be taken to insure the best possible book. It is expected that this publication will receive wide circulation and will continue to do good for the Cause of Truth and for the Carolinas for a long time. Contributors are urged to give their best effort to this book!

THE WORK OF CONVERTING SOULS

By James L. Neal

The work of converting souls is the main object of the Luke in writing the great book of Acts in the Bible. The book of Acts shows the work of Christianity as established on earth by Christ who died for that very purpose. Enthusiasm runs high through this book. Early Christians were full of zeal for the church, optimistic and hopeful all the time, in the face of untold suffering, difficulties and even unto death.

The Holy Spirit authored the book of Acts, but He used the inspired Luke to do it, just as is true of all the other books of the Bible, using about forty different inspired men over a period of nearly 1600 years. Acts is a continuation of the book of Luke by the same author (Lk. 1:1; Acts 1:1). Luke was a physician and a fellow-traveler and companion of Paul; therefore he was an eye witness of many of the great things he records by divine inspiration (Acts 16:10-17; 20:1-6; 27; 28). He makes use of the pronoun "we" often, showing that he was present and a pioneer missionary helper in much of the work. This shows Luke amply qualified to write Acts of the apostles. He was the first medical missionary, so far as we know. No doubt one of the great services he rendered was giving first-aid in binding up with love and care the bleeding wounds of Paul on their long trails of evangelistic work and suffering.

Strangely enough, many precious souls in the world today do not know that the book of Acts exists in the Bible, much less the name of its author. How fortunate we may be, if we will, to know well the great book of Acts, which gives the marvelous triumphs of the blood-bought church of our Lord in the first century! It bridges the gap between the four divine biographies of Christ and the twenty-one letters addressed to Christians. The eighty-nine chapters of biographical testimony give divine evidence that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God (Jno. 20:30-31). No intelligent mind can fairly weigh this abundant amount of proof of the Sonship of Christ without saying, "I believe!" Both Acts and the epistles show how members of the body are related to one another, to Christ, to the church, and to the world.

The book of Acts shows the unpainted and unpaintable picture of Christianity at work in the world with all of its beauty, grandeur and glory. This book pictures the establishment of the kingdom of Christ on earth and its rapid growth over the Roman Empire, the last civil world power of history. Christianity started the stone-rolling that broke in pieces all of these world-powered kingdoms. It was just that powerful in essence; and it still is, if men would but work at it. The work of Christianity, which Christ died to establish, is at once the most powerful force among men. It is the world's only hope for progress, safety and salvation, for both soul and body. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, wherein we must be saved." (Acts 4:12).

Think about the first two chapters of Acts. Speaking of the twelve apostles: "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren." (Acts 1:14). Christ appeared to His apostles and others after He arose from the dead, during the forty days He was on earth before ascending back to heaven. Hope blooms out to all the universe through the resurrection of our Lord. Jesus told the apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the power promised them (Lk. 24:45-47). This power was the miraculous gift of the Holy Spirit which enabled them to do the will of Christ after His departure for His throne in heaven. This was called "power from on high."

The final commission of Christ to His apostles was to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature; that he that believes this gospel and is baptized shall be saved; to teach the baptized the things commanded of them during their three and a half years of schooling by the Master Teacher. Their great program of work was plain, simple and simply powerful. They waited for divine power and when they received it they went about teaching all people of the Christ (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 1:6-8; 8:4).

While waiting for the "power from on high," Matthias was selected to take the place of Judas Iscariot as an apostle. Those waiting for the Spirit engaged in prayer and supplication to God throughout the ten days — a ten-day prayer meeting! These men were very humble and recognized the blessings of prayer and the need of God in their lives. They were given miraculous power to impower them to give the world the gospel of Christ, to confirm it with miracles and to write the New Testament of our Lord for us.

On the first Pentecost after Jesus arose from the dead, the Holy Spirit overpowered the apostles. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in languages they had never learned.

Jesus had said to His apostles, "Upon this rock I will build my church," and He gave them the "keys of the kingdom." Peter was the spokesman (Matt. 16:19). Thus being authorized and qualified to preach the gospel, the apostles proclaimed to the waiting people the conditions of entering the church, being saved thereby (Acts 2:14-38). Peter's appeal was strong and forceful. It brought cries of anguish of "What shall we do?" Three thousand believed the gospel and with penitent hearts were baptized for remission of sins to be added by the Lord to the

(see page 7)

REPORT FROM NORTHEAST IN GREENVILLE, S. C. - Burl Curtis

For some time we have intended to include a report from the Northeast congregation but other things have always crowded it out.

Last May, Jack Hobby of Merritt Island, Florida conducted a very fine meeting for us. There were 2 restorations and 1 baptism during this meeting. Johnny Sewell of Charlotte, N. C. is scheduled to held our fall meeting the latter part of September. The exact dates will be announced later.

TWO ACRES PURCHASED

In May the church here began serious negotiations for the purchase of two acres of land located on the Wade Hampton Boulevard. The purchase of this land was made possible by the owner's willingness to finance the balance. The lot is well located--one of the best locations in all the area. It is one mile northeast of the 291-29 junction facing the super four lane Greenville-Spartanburg Highway. The east-northeast section is perhaps Greenville's fastest growing section. There are dozens of new housing projects. Less than 10% of all couples living in the Wade Hampton section are over 50 years of age, consequently it is a section with many children. Suburban living has pushed Greenville far into the country with houses reaching nearly to the small town of Taylors about 10 miles from downtown Greenville. It is estimated that above 40,000 people live in the Greer, Paris, Taylors and Northeast Greenville area. The Wade Hampton Boulevard, where the lot is located, is one of the most heavily traveled roads in the state with approximately 40,000 cars passing each 24 hours. We hope to erect a large lighted sign on the church property as soon as possible.

FAITH AND COURAGE SHOWN

When the 2.08 acres came up for sale, the owner required $1,000 as a down payment. We did not have this money. After several business meetings, the brethren met the challenge with faith and courage. Each man determined to increase his contribution so that the loan for the down payment could be repaid while meeting the payments on the lot. We need your prayer and support in this undertaking.

TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOP

A very successful Teacher Training Workshop was conducted July 24-27. The highest attendance was 76 with teachers coming from a distance of 60 miles. Our thanks goes to the congregation meeting on Poinsett Highway for the use of their building and especially to the teachers from Alabama Christian College for conducting the workshop. These workshops are very helpful, in fact, one each year would not be too often and preferably just before the VBS season. This one accented many good ideas but especially how to improve the Bible school on a very limited budget. Our teachers at Northeast found the workshop very helpful in getting ready for the VBS.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our Vacation Bible School was held the first part of August. By using the ideas gained, the rooms were beautiful. Not the walls, floors, etc., for the UCT building which we rent leaves much to be desired. But the rooms were the most attractive and inviting of any I have ever seen except the ones at the Madison church near Nashville, Tennessee. Our teachers used welcome charts for the door, accordian books, appropriate pictures, maps, flannel boards, chalk boards, pin boards making a 3-D effect, object tables with a teaching object for each lesson, flash cards, window shade scrolls, stand-up cards, sand boxes, plaster plaques with tempera paints, chart tablets with a large page for each lesson, teaching charts with

(see page 7)

EPORT FROM NORTHEAST (cont'd)

bjects made from pipe cleaners, flip ooks, peep boxes and other things that I an not think of. All this was done at very ttle cost but a great lot of work on the art of the teachers.

BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

In cooperation with the Belmont Ave. ongregation in Nashville, Tennessee, we re offering a Bible Correspondence les- on to all who will enroll. We hope to eatly enlarge this work which is just eginning.

ARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

1963 LECTURES - Next year's Carolina ectures will be held in Union, S. C. The me is the first week in April. Bro. Mil- n Parker has requested all preachers in e Carolinas to contact him so he will ve your correct address. So if you plan attend the lectures next Spring, please rite Bro. Parker. He says they plan to e as many preachers on the program as ssible. Make plans now to attend.

GENTRY MOVES BACK TO TENNESSEE (from the Plaza bulletin) "Considerable me was spent in discussing plans to lo- te a replacement for Bro. Gentry. It s been necessary for Bro. Gentry to ve back to Tennessee, due to illness his family.

ADDRESS OF O. P. BAIRD - A card m Bro. Baird gives us the following rmation: Until August 29, 1962, his dress will be c/o B. Frank Rhodes, 3 East North 13th Street, Abilene, Tex- . (John will remain at this address) Af- August 29, 1962, the remainder of the nily can be addressed, Church of Christ ssion, APO 301, San Francisco, Cali- nia (for letter mail only). For Parcel st: 6 Hyo Chang Dong, Yongsan - Ku, ul, Korea. Our kindest wishes go with Bairds as they labor in Korea.

VARIOUS ITEMS (cont'd)

CLAYTON WINTERS LEAVES LEXINGTON, N. C. - In order to further his education, Clayton Winters has decided to leave the work in Lexington about August 20. He plans to resume his school work with the fall sessions. He writes, "We will, of course, continue to preach the gospel at another place while in school."

Support the MESSENGER in your area!!!

THE WORK OF CONVERTING (cont'd)

church (Acts 2:47). This was the very day the church was established and the new law of faith in Christ became operative. It was the birthday of the church and the spiritual birthday of 3,000 souls.

Keep in mind that the church was born on the first day of Pentecost after Christ arose from the dead. There is "one body," says Paul, and it is the church (Eph. 1:22, 23; 4:4). Paul tells us that Christ expects unity of us. We must be joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment! Christ Jesus gave His life that we might have unity in religion.

A large part of Acts is given to the history of cases of conversion and to unsuccessful attempts at conversion of sinners. All other matters are incidental and swing around the great work of converting souls. The vital events of the first chapter were designed to prepare the apostles for their great work lying ahead; and, for all of us as well! The admission of the Gentiles into the church in the household of Cornelius fits into the plan. The fifteenth chapter trouble over circumcision grew out of Gentile conversions. The long, sad account of Paul's imprisonment in Jerusalem, Caesarea, up to his martyrdom in Rome, constitutes a connected history of his preaching the gospel. The matter of the apostle James being beheaded (12th chapter) and incidents thereto, show that "the word of God grew and multiplied" under persecution.

Why were cases of conversion put upon divine record? Evidently to show us how such conversions were effected that we may profit thereby. These noted cases represent all different grades of human society; of intellectual and religious culture; of the common occupations of life; of the different countries and languages of the then known world. This all shows us that the gospel of Christ is perfectly fitted to the salvation and the needs of all classes of people in every generation.

Conversion is caused and shown by the agencies effecting it and the changes made in the individual converted. Luke, therefore, designates all these agencies, conditions and changes.

Profitable Bible Study

A correct, systematic way of reading and studying the Bible will result in great benefit. One should approach the study of the Word of God with the spirit of the open mind; that is, one should have a desire to learn the truth as revealed in its pages, regardless of any ideas which may have been presented to him previously.

One should desire that the will of the Father be done in all things. Searching the Scriptures in this manner one may learn the truth and can discover the peace of mind and comfort which may be his. He will learn to be approved of God through rightly applying the Word (2 Tim. 2:15). He who meditates upon the Word of the Lord daily will be blessed (Psalms 1:1-2).

There are a number of methods which may be used in Bible study. By reading at random, one may learn some Scriptural truths, but a more systematic study will prove rewarding. One may study a topic, such as *faith* or *love*, reading all that the different writers have to say on the topic. He may very profitably study the different characters of the Bible. He may study the books of the Bible, one by one.

Reading each book critically — that is, seeking to learn the author, to whom the writing was directed, the time of the writing, as well as a clear understanding of the text of the writing — will all help the student to understand more of the message found in the pages of God's Word.

Whatever method he may be using, the student should study the Bible without prejudice — with an unbiased and open mind. If one comes to read its pages with preconceived ideas and, perhaps, even misconceptions which have been placed in his mind by teachings of men, or if he comes to his study with a desire to prove the particular tenets of some religious organization, he is likely not to learn the truth. One should study with a prayer in his heart that he may learn he truth as revealed in God's Word, and resolve that when he has thus learned, he will arise and obey his Lord.

Members of the body of Christ plead with men to read and study their Bibles. Christians offer both private and public assistance where needed. It is recognized that many of us need some assistance that we may be guided correctly in our study and that we may learn what God desires that we do. The Ethiopian Eunuch needed such assistance (Acts 8) and many people need and desire it today.

It is our desire that all religious people be united with Christ through a diligent study of His holy Book. Through no other way is it possible for us to be united — and yet be pleasing in the sight of God.

—Lloyd E. Ellis.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS!

N. C. NEWS NOTES AND 'NOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

Vacations, Gospel Meetings, Vacation Bible Schools, and other summer activities still have most of us a little off schedule and this editor is late again with the news, but since the CMT July issue was some three weeks late we expect the August issue will be some late also. News is a bit scarce too and few are sending in reports. Let me suggest that the best way to keep others informed of your congregational activities is to send a monthly report to this paper.

Gleaning the bulletins we learn that J. D. PARKER has moved to Springfield Pennsylvania, 963 Sara Drive. It is not known who will follow him at SOUTH MAIN in WINSTON-SALEM.

DURHAM plans to have Johnny Sewell for their fall meeting, October 7 - 14. Speaking of Bro. Sewell, his bulletin from the new WESTSIDE CHURCH in CHARLOTTE is just about the neatest thing in a bulletin I have seen in a long time. Very attractive, well-written, informative, edifying, and complete with pictures.

Another very attractive and well written bulletin comes to us from Jim Davis in HENDERSONVILLE, N. C. where the July attendance was high for all services. LESLIE G. THOMAS will be in a meeting there August 12 - 19.

Attendance in HICKORY, N.C. broke all records with 108 present on July 8.

RALEIGH reports two baptisms and the installation of air-conditioning.

Meetings during July in Eastern N.C. found Paul Vining of Huntsville, Ala. in JACKSONVILLE and Tommy Rosenblum also of Huntsville, Ala. in a tent meeting with the new Cape Fear church in FAYETTEVILLE, in which three were baptized. This new work is off to a fine start with attendance averaging over 75 and lots purchased on which to build.

Ending his first years work in GREENVILLE, N. C. Bro. C. E. Mannon reports a total of 23 responses with present averages running 40 and $90. Their building lots are now paid in full and a building project is under way.

Bro. Jesse Melton reports a new record attendance was set in WILSON recently and a fund raising campaign is now under way to retire the remaining debt on their building lots so that construction can be started on a meeting house.

Here in KINSTON we recently rejoiced to welcome into fellowship one of the city's well known physicians. He was the son of a conservative Christian church preacher but has long been dissatisfied with the drift of that group toward liberalism. We have held no recent meetings nor conducted any Vacation Bible Schools, but we are presently engaged in a "sign-erecting" project, designed to publicize the church and its location.

James Jones conducted a meeting in BOONE, N. C. with a total of 4 baptisms and 5 restorations. Attendance reached 60 during the meeting.

AVAILABLE:

Preacher with B.A. from Harding. 24 years old, single, 5 years preaching experience. Willing to do secular work to help support self.

Earnest R. Douglass, Jr.
Apt. 1, 1742 Lawrence Ave.
Memphis, Tennessee

Following are reports as received:

ALEXANDER, NORTH CAROLINA
Red Oak Church of Christ
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporting

Our meeting of June 10-17 was an inspiring one; preached by Bro. George A. Cooper of Huntsville, Alabama. Four were baptized--two adults; Bro. Bliss Williams, a neighbor, whom we had longed for several years, to have in our assembly; Mrs. J. B. Franklin, a mother of three children, whom we believe will become a strong stone in God's building; a boy fourteen and a

girl twelve. We are glad to have the children at this early age.

PANTEGO, N.C.
Pike Road Church of Christ
Jesse Condra, Reporting

In our Vacation Bible School June 11 through 15th, we had an average of 126 with 120 the first day, 135 the last day. Last year our highest attendance was 76.

We would like for everyone to remember our meeting beginning July 30th with Bro. R. C. Walker of Radford,Va. doing the preaching. The services will be each day at 2 and 8 p.m. Monday thru Saturday and at 10 and 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Everyone is urged to attend all these services possible.

WOODLEAF, NORTH CAROLINA
Corinth Congregation
Ottis L. Qualls, Reporting

I began my 4th year with the church here entering an agreement to remain two more years. Recently one was restored here. Our Vacation Bible School was conducted the week of June 25th in which our attendance on the second day reached the 100 mark. This was a large attendance considering the fact that we only have at the present three classrooms. We are engaged in a meeting with Brother J. Farris Baird of the Abilene congregation doing the preaching. Attendance has been very good and one has been baptized, there are two more nights remaining in the meeting. I am taking the course in Life Saving & Water Safety that is being offered at Valdese along with Bill Smith, Clay Henderson, Harold Scott & Tony Forrest. Our purpose in mind is to be able to assist at Camp Hanes during the two weeks in August if needed in that phase of work.

MINERAL SPRINGS, NORTH CAROLINA
Joel Plunkett, Reporting

This month three people have been baptized into Christ and three have been restored to the family. Jesse Melton and his family were here with us during a wonderful meeting and Vacation Bible School. He did an excellent job of presenting the truth. A congregation has started meeting near Wadesboro on Sunday afternoons and Thursday evenings. A family that left denominationalism this month and one Family that has been driving here to Mineral Springs compose this group.

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
Plaza Congregation
Noyle Burton, Reporting

The Plaza's Visitation Program continues to be very successful. At our last meeting the attendance was very good and 88 visits were reported. This program is a wonderful means of getting to know your fellow Christians better as well as encouraging new converts, non-members and welcoming those who are new comers to the community and congregation.

This program has created much enthusiasm among those attending the meetings and provides an opportunity for Christian fellowship. With relatively simple planning a program such as this could be established in other churches and would be a very good way to spread the gospel to other areas by getting out and becoming acquainted with those who are not Christians or those who have strayed away. A friendly visit is a good stepping stone to encouraging these people and it would be wonderful to see more of these programs begun.

Due to "vacation time" the attendance on Sundays and Wednesdays has been lower than usual but once summer time is over and school begins we are sure attendance will be back to normal again.

CLEMMONS, NORTH CAROLINA
Warners Chapel Congregation
W. J. (Bill) Perkins, Reporting

During the past few weeks we are happy to report the following results: The best attended gospel meeting with a high attendance of 200 and an average of 176. We nearly set a new Bible school record during the meeting Bro. Max Johnson of Atlanta, Ga., a former preacher here, did some fine preaching. Three were restored and one baptised. Since the meeting, the attendance has remained high at Bible School and Worship with a high of 195, another has been restored. Yesterday Bro. Hal Frazier from France preached and then gave a missionary report at night. The church here has been helping with his support. Tonight I had

the privilege of baptising 5 fine young colored men from the area. We try to assist the nearby colored congregation at every opportunity. The church here is sending clothes and literature to France and Korea. Last week we ended the largest Vacation Bible School we have had. Besides a nursery with attendants there were 140 enrolled with a high attendance of 127. We had a Family Night Bible school--with classes from all ages on the "Christian Home". Adults and children from the community attended well. We have a personal work training program going on. Several dedicated members are cooperating in the visitation work and cottage classes, using film-strips and other helps. There is yet much room for further help from more members, and even from our roll there are a number who need personal attention. We are trying to arouse the congregation to feel a personal responsibility towards both members and non-members in this personal work program. Two members, young men from Harding College, Larry Warner and Don Walters, will speak soon on the subject of Communism and its threat to Christianity and Freedom.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA
Howard Winters, Reporting

I have just completed my second Sunday with the church in Wilmington--I moved here from the Center View congregation in Elizabethton, Tennessee. Everything looks very encouraging for us. I firmly believe that the church in Wilmington is on the thresholds of a glorious future. Our average attendance for the past two Sundays has been 62--an increase over the previous Sunday of 32--and our contribution has averaged $81. A new family moved into Wilmington the same week I did, which has strengthened the church immeasurably. We are already in the process of putting a visitation program into effect, and an effort will be made to improve our Bible school. We will also be running a weekly bulletin which we will be glad to mail to anyone who may wish to keep informed about our work.

Since I am new in the Carolinas, I know little or nothing about the church in the two states, but I want to be informed about all work and activity. So I would appreciate receiving any bulletin, news, or any other item that might serve as information. Please send them to me at 215 S. 17th St.

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Billy R. Davidson, S. C. News Editor
Rt. 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

I want, first of all, to appeal to the brethren of South Carolina to send me the news. It will take but very little effort and it will mean much to the producing of this column. My address is Route 6, Box 444, N. Charleston, S. C. Please have them to me by the 15th of the month so that they can be put into the next issue of the paper.

The church in Florence is planning a VBS which is to begin on July 23. One program of theirs which should draw favorable attention to the church is the distribution of magazines in the hospital. They attach a brief letter to every magazine.

Bro. & Sis. O. P. Baird of Columbia are planning on going to Korea to take the place of Bro. & Sis. Holton. Bro. Baird writes in the Park St. bulletin: "A few months ago Bro. Holton wrote Bro. Baird and asked if he and Sister Baird would consider coming to Korea. A few weeks ago the Bairds went to Washington to talk with the elders there about the work. Further correspondence followed and the Bairds have decided to accept the invitation to go to Korea shortly before the Holtons leave to return home. It is not known just when the Bairds will leave." I am sure that brethren in the Carolina's will want to wish them well.

The Riverside congregation here in Charleston reports the following averages from May 20 - June 24. Bible classes Sunday morning 70; Worship service 90; Evening Worship 53; Wednesday evening 48; contributions for this period averaged $188.33. R. L. Bullard preaches at Riverside.

The Durant Ave. Church in Charleston continues to make progress. Our averages for the summer months have been lower than usual. We attribute this to many being gone on vacations. Our attendance for Bible classes is 210; Worship service 255; Sunday night 185; Wednesday evening 170. For the summer months we have dismissed our classes on Wednesday night. In their place we are having a different program every Wednesday. On the first night of this new program we presented the Life of

Christ in Word & Song. For the second week we had a film entitled "God of Creation". This new program has been well received by the members and we believe it will be worth while. We will return to regular classes in the fall. Bro. Jimmy Dorris will be with us in Sept. for our fall meeting.

UNION, SOUTH CAROLINA
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

We continue to make some progress here in Union with a continued increase in attendance and contributions. Average attendance for Morning Worship in June was 114, and for the Evening Worship 80. The contribution averaged $219.05 and in addition we raised $352.30 to apply on a block wall across the back of the church property. Our VBS starts Aug. 20th with classes for all ages. Bro. U. A. Hall will be with us in a meeting beginning Sept. 16. The Union & Duncan congregations supported me in a mission meeting in the Raven Branch comunity in East Tenn., in June. One was baptized and 10 restored. We are glad to have Bro. Roy Burgess in this section. He began work with the congregation at Woodruff, July 1.

"PLUS" or "MINUS"?

J. M. Barrie has said, "The praise that comes of love does not make us vain, but humble rather." In a magazine recently I saw a distinction drawn between what were called "plus" and "minus" people. Did you ever think that there are people whose most fitting symbol is a "minus" sign? They never add to your happiness or your hopes or your faith in your self or anybody else. Rather, they take away from these. When they leave your company, you feel that you are somehow poorer than you were in your own esteem, and in your belief in others; these are the "minus" people.

But there are others, of a different sort. They never come to us but that they add to our store of all the best things, far beyond their thought and intention. They believe in us, and so help us, and sometimes that side surprises even ourselves. They radiate courage, hope and faith. Their praise humbles us, yet leaves us tingling with desire to be more worthy of it. I ask you, is it not better to be "plus" than "minus"?

--M. Norvel Young
20th Century Christian

THE FAITHFUL FEW

In every church, in every clime,
When there's some work to do,
It's likely to be done
By just the "faithful few."

Many folks will help to sing,
And some are glad to talk,
But when it comes to doing things,
A lot of them will balk.

"I can't do this, I can't do that;
Excuse me, please, this time---
I'd be glad to help you out,
But it's not in my line."

So when the leader looks about
For some who'll help to "do,"
He nearly always has to go
And ask the "Faithful Few."

He knows full well, they're busy, too,
And always hard at work,
Yet he is sure they'll not refuse,
Not any duty shirk.

They never stop to make excuse
But always try to do
The very best they can
To smooth the way for you.

God bless, I pray, the "faithful few,"
And may their tribe increase!
They must be very precious too,
To the blessed Prince of Peace.

-Chester E. Shuler

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FREE Subscriptions
--to the first 50 received
-- several have already reached us
Here are the RULES:
1. send name and address of an elder
2. must be active in the work
3. offer closes September 1
Help put the Carolina Work before others.

Carolina
MESSENGER OF TRUTH



"For the love of money is the root of all evil."

September 1962

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

Bamberg County, S. C. needs workers for the Lord. This county has 16,274 people and only one small congregation of the Lord's church which has just begun. Who will work with these brethren? Who will support them so they may accomplish more good in less time? Who will support a full-time preacher in this county?

The one congregation in the county meets in the county seat, Bamberg. Bamberg is located on highways 301 and 601 about 50 miles south of Columbia, S. C. It has a population of about 4,000, a hospital and a radio station. There are approximately 16 members of the church meeting in Bamberg.

There are many advantages in beginning now to support the work in Bamberg County. Enthusiasm and expectation are high, the members are ready to work, there is no troublesome past to overcome and the maximum time to work before the Lord returns.

When will the time come that there will be at least one congregation in every county in the Carolinas? So much depends on those of us living here. So much depends upon interested Christians living elsewhere.

Will you consider Bamberg, S. C. and obtain more information from L. L. Rawlings, Bamberg, S. C?

PLANS FOR THE MESSENGER

We would all like to see the Messenger increase its effectiveness by having a more attractive make-up, better quality printing, more color, better organization of material, more pages, etc. How is this to be accomplished?

Certainly not by defeatism. Who knows better than those who are directly responsible for its continuation how blessed we are in having a paper for the Carolinas at all? How many pairs of states can you name that have no publication sending forth their needs, opportunities and accomplishments? How many publications, similar to ours, have started and failed?

Therefore, we are strongly convinced that we should move with caution into any area, although it would improve the publication, where additional costs are involved. When an improvement is made, let us predetermine, as much as possible, if we are going to be able to maintain that improvement.

The Carolinas can have just such publication as we are willing to pay for.

We believe that to incorporate and place

(See page 7)

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
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Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Billy Davidson, S. C. News Editor
Joe Costilow, Art Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager

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AHAB'S SIN AND REPENTANCE (I KINGS 21:27-29)

Vernon C. Joines
Williston, S. C.

There is much in this old chronicle of sin and doom which we may ponder with profit. So, let us try to bring out of it some present-day lessons of warning and admonition. In the New Testament, Paul said, "Whatsoever things were written afore time were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." (Romans 15:4)

HAPPINESS CONSISTS, NOT IN HAVING BUT IN BEING

How many today are letting their lives be darkened because some Naboth denies them of a vineyard, or some Mordecai will not salute them! If we are to serve Christ faithfully today, we must dispose of all coveteousness in our lives. (Exodus 20:17--Luke 12:15--Col. 3:5--Eph. 5:3) Many forget that even if they had the things which they long for, happiness would be as far from them as ever, and some new object would take the place of their old grievance. Neither should we bow down to men as Haman desired Mordecia to do "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." (Matthew 4:10) They do lack one thing. But that one thing is not external to them, but within them. They lack a new heart. Whatever man is, or is to be, originates in the heart. "For as he thinketh in his heart so is he." (Proverbs 23:7) "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart." (Mark 12:30) We are to do the will of God from the heart. (Ephesians 6:6) Unless they obtain the new heart they can have no abiding satisfaction. "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again." (John 4:13)

THERE IS GREAT EVIL IN UNHALLOWED ALLIANCES.

His marriage to Jezebel was one of his greatest mistakes. God had forbidden a marriage such as his. "Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou not take unto thy son." (Deut. 7:3) "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:" ---"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." (II Cor. 6:14,17)

The preceeding verses of scripture, from the New Testament, show that God still does not sanction an unholy alliance-made by his people. Dazzled with the glitter of fortune, or the glare of a high position, a young person enters into the sacred alliance of matrimony with one who has no moral stability or Christian excellence, and the issue is almost certain misery, with the probable addition of crime and disaster.

THE PERVERSION WHICH AN EVIL HEART MAKES OF RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE.

There is an old Spanish proverb somewhat to this effect, "When a serpent straightenes himself, it is that he may go into his hole." So when the unscrupulous suddenly manifest some scrupulous regard for legal forms or for religious observances, you may be sure that they are after mischief. It would seem that John the Baptist knew that this was so even in his lifetime, and to the hypocritical he said, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" (Matthew 3:7) Some of the blackest crimes that have ever been committed have been perpetrated through the forms of law, or under the color of religion. Is it not true that "the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9) And we are forcibly impressed with the fact that no one is so daringly defiant in wickedness as he who knows the truth and dis-

(see page 5)

DIVINE ORGANIZATION

W. J. (Bill) Perkins
Clemmons, N. C.

Paul told the members of the church (I. Cor. 12:27): "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." Then he taught that they did not all have the same abilities not having the same place or office within the Body, (vs. 28-30) such as in the natural body. However, when each member of our body does its part taking its instructions from the same head (God's organized way in nature), our body is able to accomplish much. So it is to be in the one spiritual body of Christ, the church (I Cor. 12:18, 20).

Christ is the head or king supreme over His divine spiritual institution. (Col. 1:13 14, 18, 19). With his wisdom and authority he decrees how His body is to be organized. His plan is a simple one yet it is the strongest and most durable because it is Divine. With Christ as the Head and also the foundation of it, the church still exists just as he said it would (Matt. 16: 18; I Cor. 3:11; Eph. 1:20-23). "All authority" has been vested in Christ in heaven and on earth leaving others no authority to originate anything new. Yet down thru the centuries men both in and out of the church have rejected Christ, urspiring His authority. Many, contrary to authority, began adding to or taking from Christ's pattern for His church. Nevertheless, in spite of the influence, in each age some did remain true and the loyal body of Christ continued, standing on the " sure " foundation. (2 Tim. 2:17-19); I Tim. 4:1; Acts 20:28).

The apostles did the work of ambassadors for Christ, revealing, executing His will. (John 16:12-14; Acts 2:1-4, 32; 2 Cor. 5:20) They completely revealed Christ's will and pattern for His church (Jude 3; Gal. 1:6-10). Today the apostles are judging spiritual "Israel" through their writings (Matt. 19: 28, Gal. 3:26-29). Our plea must be to go back to the DIVINE organizational pattern they reveal in Christ's New Testament (2. Tim. 3:16, 17).

When a congregation of Christians has men meeting certain qualifications, elders are to be appointed over it. They are needed, but they are to be appointed because this is Christ's Divine pattern. Luke says elders were appointed in every church (Acts 14:23).

The period of miraculous gifts would not continue (I Cor. 13:8 - 10); therefore; Christ was, through men who could speak "as the Spirit gave them utterance," preparing the churches to be guided by "scripturally" qualified men. After the period of special gifts ended no one could do anything miraculously, so capable church officers would become such by meeting the qualifications set forth in I Tim. 3 and Titus 1--qualifications not related to special spiritual gifts. They were called "elders" or "presbyters" for they had to be of mature age and experience. They were "bishops" or "overseers" since they were charged with overseeing the flock, the congregation they attended. They were also called "pastors" since they, not the preachers, were the shepherds, and there was always to be a plural number of "pastors" over each church (Acts 14:23, Phil. 1:1; Acts 20:17, 28).

"Deacons," men meeting certain qualifications (I Tim. 3) are to be "appointed" church officers, also. However, since deacons have no authority vested in them by way of appointment, they are simply the official helpers of the elders, serving under their leadership. Thus, without elders (rulers or shepherds) over them, it would be useless to appoint "official" helpers.

All in the congregation are to submit to those charged with the "rule over them." They are to obey their judgment in carrying out that which Christ has decreed for the church to do (Heb. 13:17). Christ blesses the church when it functions according to His pattern and teachings and

(see page 5)

He, thereby, enables it to bear much fruit, both individually and collectively. (John 15; Eph. 4:11-16).

Congregations of simply pure New Testament Christians should realize their duty to develop men capable of being qualified church officers. When it is believed that such exist in the congregation, the church should desire that elders and deacons be appointed. Some way pleasing unto the group in general ("and the saying pleased the whole multitude" Acts 6:5) should be followed. A few scriptures in particular offer wisdom in going about this matter. Preachers should be encouraged to bring about the appointment of qualified church officers. This is their charge as preachers of "the word." (Titus 1:5-11; I Tim. 4:1-5)In the appointment the whole church should have a part. All should be given opportunity to suggest names of those believed to be qualified. Each should also be given opportunity to help confirm or disprove whether those to be appointed are qualified or not (Acts 6:3-7). A suggested plan: Ask for names of those believed qualified. Agree to consider only those believed to be qualified by most people. (A plural number of course). Submit their names to the congregation, asking those who did not suggest them to reveal if it was because they did not believe them qualified or because they did not know well enough. This could be done by setting a period for spiritual objections to be offered. If an objection is because of some personal sin, the objector should be encouraged to discuss his objection with the one concerned, first of all, then if the sin is still believed to be sustained against him, reveal it to others. This will perhaps clarify, remove or prevent misunderstandings and other difficulties. Then when men are believed qualified, with no proven scriptural objections, they should be appointed. This is the Scriptural pattern for Christ's Divine Organization.

§ § § § § § § § § §

Send change of address soon!!!!

regards it. Mere knowledge never yet saved anyone from ruin; for, if the heart be preverted, everything that enters it is only made subservient to its iniquity. The educated villians are all the more dangerous because of their education; and among godless men they are the most to be dreaded who have an intelligent acquaintance with the Word of God.

THE PRICE WE HAVE TO PAY FOR SIN.

What weighty words are these of Elijah to Ahab, "Thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord!" (I Kings 21: 20) The great German poet has elaborated this thought into that weird production in which he represents his hero as selling his soul to the mocking Mephistopheles. And it were well that every evildoer took to heart the moral of his tragic tales. Balaam is said to have loved the wages of unrighteousness. (II Peter 2:15)

The Apostle Paul tells us what the price is. "For the wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23) That which the sinner gives for his unhallowed gains is himself. Consider it well.

THE CURSE WHICH ATTENDS ILL-GOTTEN GAINS.

The gains of ungodliness are weighted with the curse of God; and, sooner or later, that will be made apparent. We have numerous examples of this in the Bible. Achan and Gehazi are only two among many. (Joshua 7:16-21--II Kings 5:20-27) The moral government of God today is administered on the same principles as those which we find underlying this narrative. True, the dishonest man now persuing his purposes in secret may have no Elijah sent to him, with the special mission to declare to him the sort of punishment which shall over take him; but Elijah's God is living yet, and one has only to open his eyes, and mark the progress of events from year to year, to be convinced that "sorrow tracketh wrong, as

(see page 6)

THE ABC OF A GOSPEL MEETING

A ttend every service
B ring your friends each night
C ancel any conflicting engagements
D iscuss the meeting with everyone
E ncourage others to be faithful
F ill the front benches FIRST
G reet every visitor
H elp out in advertising the meeting
I nvestigate each lesson and apply it
J oin in the singing fervently
K eep the telephone busy - invite
L ook at the good you can do
M ake a contact each day
N ever grow weary in working for the Lord
O thers need Christ as much as you
P ray fervently for the meeting
Q uench not the zeal of others
R esolve this will be our best meeting
S tand firm behind the truth presented
T talk up the meeting
U rge those that should respond
V isit often - make it daily
W atch your speach - encourage only
X ert yourself for the meeting
Y ell about the meeting - tell others
Z ealously do each of the above items.

ETERNAL REVENUE...

I work for the Department of Internal Revenue. Yes, I am the chap that everybody loathes. I go over your income tax return.

The other day I checked a queer return. Some guy with an income under $5,000 claimed he gave $624 to some church. Sure, he was within the 15 percent limit ...but it looked mighty suspicious to me. So I hopped a trolley and dropped in on the guy and asked him about his "contributions."

I thought he'd get nervous like most of them do, and say that he "must have made a mistake." But not this guy! He came back at me with that figure of $624 without batting an eyelash.

"Do you have a receipt from the church?" I asked, figuring that would make him squirm.

"Sure," he said, "I always drop them in the drawer where I keep my envelopes." And off he went to fetch his receipts.

Well, he had me! One look at the receipts and I knew he was on the level. So I apologized for bothering him, explaining that I have to check up on deductions that seem unusually high. And as we shook hands at the door, he said, "I'd like to invite you to attend our church sometime."

"Thanks," I replied, "but I belong to a church myself."

"Excuse me," he said, "that possibility hadn't occured to me."

As I rode the trolley home, I kept wondering what he meant by that last remark. It wasn't until Sunday morning, when I dropped my usual quarter into the collection plate, that it came to me..."

CAROLINA LECTURES

This reminder has been received from Milton S. Parker who preaches at Union, S. C., the place of the 1963 Lectures.

"We are looking forward to the 1963 Carolina Lectures. This will be the first time they have been in Union. We hope every congregation in the two Carolinas can be represented, and that every preacher can be present and have a part. Time of the Lectures is the first week in April."

EXCELLENT WORKBOOKS AVAILABLE

We are happy to call attention to these fine workbooks composed by one of the Carolina preachers, Willard Conchin of Mocksville, N. C.

The series is called "Systematic Study Series" and contain seven different workbooks.

Harmony of the Gospels, Volume I
Harmony of the Gospels, Volume II
A Systematic Study of the Book of Acts
A Systematic Study of Romans and Galatains
A Systematic Study of Ephesians through II Thessalonians

(see page 7)

PLANS (cont'd)

the Messenger under a board of directors would more effectively assure wider interest and durability. Several months ago, a committee, working toward that end, drew up a statement of editorial policy which was published in the Messenger. We were not successful in having a charter ready to submit at the same time. Since then, we have not had (or taken) the time to draw it up. We hope to work some on it this month.

The corporation will be non-profit and the board of directors will be selected very carefully. The number has not been determined but it will be several with as even a geographical distribution as possible. Men or women who plan to stay in the Carolinas would make the best board members.

The board of directors will be responsible for the publication, including any debts incurred, direct subsidy or means of subsidizing.

Balance of power will be maintained by the requirements of the charter, the board and the staff. No board member shall be selected who does not meet the requirements of the charter, the board shall have the power the dismiss, if necessary, the editor or other staff members and the board shall be invested with the right to discharge any board member if it becomes necessary. This should help insure that the publication never falls into the hands of either the radicals or the cowards.

However, after all caution has been taken, the continuation of the original purpose and course of this publication is dependent upon the individuals, in any year, who are in charge. Charters and requirements can be forgotten, misinterpreted, annulled or ignored. May evil men never direct the course of this paper. We pray that faithful and dedicated men will direct its course.

We would appreciate your comments on these plans. If for or against them, tell us why. For everyone who shows no interest (takes a hands off attitude) we gain only one friend. For everyone who openly and actively opposes us, we gain five friends. Even though we desire to make none, who then becomes our worst enemy?

WORKBOOKS (cont'd)

A Systematic Study of I Timothy through Hebrews (being printed)

A Systematic Study of James through Jude (not ready yet)

Some throughout the Carolinas have used these workbooks and have found them very satisfactory. We are happy to commend them to you. They may be ordered directly from the author at 700 Stewart Street, Mocksville, N. C.

We would be happy to call attention to other books, Bible class material and tracts written by brethren in the Carolinas.

THE POWER OF THE WORD

How great the power of the Word!
How wonderful to see
Its saving power manifest,
Wherever we may be!

How great the power of the Word!
God SAID and it was so--
The spoken Word made Heaven above,
And all the earth below.

How great the power of the Word!
How true for us today--
The light that shone so long ago,
Shines now the self-same way!

How great the power of the Word!
How grateful that we may
Be privileged to thank the Lord,
For this illumined Ray!

Madeline Brown

FREE BIBLE STUDY COURSE

If you would like to study this correspondence course, write to the Northeast Church of Christ, P. O. Box 5423, Sta. B, Greenville, S. C.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS!

N. C. NEWS NOTES AND 'NOUNCEMENTS
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

Having just recently returned from a week at Carolina Bible Camp, my mind is filled with many good things to write concerning this years most wonderful camp. Nearly 300 campers and staff members attended the first week and I am sure that every single one was reluctant to see the week end. The Christian spirit prevailing in a setting of natural beauty made Carolina Bible Camp a small sample of heaven to those who were able to attend. Let me urge every parent of camp-age children to begin preparation even now to send them to CBC next year.

Turning to news of the congregations we learn that the Spindale church now has Waymon Love as evangelist. Bro. Love moved from Asheville to Augusta, Ga. a few years ago and has now returned to his first love. Welcome home. (Send us a report from time to time, please.) Bro. Harold Simmons has moved from the Jericho congregation near Mocksville to labor with the church in Sumter, S.C.

Bro. Clayton Winters is moving from Lexington, N.C. to Mountain City, Tenn.

Jesse Melton of Wilson, N. C. is back at home after two meetings in middle Tennessee. The total results were 4 baptisms and 5 restorations. Two were baptized in Wilson August 19. Only $900. is now needed by the Wilson congregation to retire the indebtedness on their $9000 building lots.

Speaking of building lots both the Greenville, N. C. and the Taylorsville N.C. congregations have paid out their building lots and are now in position to begin planning for construction.

Virgil Hale, minister of the Whiteville congregation plans to be married in November.

Bobby Thompson of Miami, Fla. held a meeting in Morehead City, during Aug.

Let me urge congregations to send in reports of your activities each month.

The following are reports as received.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
Vance Street Congregation
Leslie G. Thomas, Reporting

Our vacation Bible school is now in progress. I am delivering my series of lectures on church leadership to the adult class, which is being well attended. I am scheduled to do the preaching in a meeting at Hendersonville, N. C., August 12-19, and then at Kannapolis, beginning on August 26. That will be my third meeting at Kannapolis. Our work here is growing.

PANTEGO, N. C.
Pike Road Church of Christ
Jesse Condra, Reporting

During the month of June we had our V. C. S. with 120 the first day, 135 the last day, for a 126 plus average.

Our meeting was from July 30th thru Aug. 8th. Bro. R.C. Walker of Radford, Va., did the preaching with services at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. each day. This was a wonderful meeting with fine and profitable lessons at every service. There were many visitors from the community and surrounding communities. Five of our young people were baptized, and we trust the whole church edified.

CHARLOTTE, N.C.
Plaza Congregation
Hoyle Burton, Reporting

The work of Christ continues to grow and increase in the Charlotte area. The Plaza congregation is working diligently to increase its membership and attendance. We have shown a considerable increase in our attendance even though many have been on vacations to other towns.

Recently, the men of the congregation have been meeting every other Monday night to participate together in visiting new members and to encourage others to continue steadfastly in the work of the Lord. We pray for the success of

this work and trust that many souls can be saved through work of this type.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C.
North Main Street Congregation
Carmen Walker, Reporting

Since our last report we have had a gospel meeting which was held on June 18 through June 26 with Brother Maurice O'Neal from Portland, Tennessee, doing the preaching. Although we had no baptisms, we had good attendance throughout the meeting, and good seed was sown every night by Brother O'Neal in his excellent teachings. We feel very fortunate in having had him for our meeting.

We have just completed a very fine Vacation Bible School which was held August 6 through August 10. We had an average attendance of 54. Although our number was not large we had several children from the community attending and on Sunday some of these and their parents were present for our morning worship. On Friday night a program demonstration the children's work was presented after which everybody enjoyed homemade ice cream made and brought by the members of the congregation.

CHEROKEE, N. C.
Chester A. Hunnicutt, Reporting

The months meeting at Cherokee proved to be a success. We had way over a 100 personal workers and more than 4,000 people attended our services during the month. Six pelple were baptized, two men 67, and 72 years of age were baptized. We have junked our big buses, and plan to buy two new ones. The church in Tullahoma, Tenn. (Moore St.) is buying one of these buses. The preacher's residence is under way. We need $6,000 to finish it.

We are planning a full program for next July. Vacation Bible school and two meetings going on at the same time, and a more intensive teaching program. We need teachers, personal workers, and bus drivers. Write me if you think you can help next July. (P. O. Box 42)

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Billy R. Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
N. Charleston, S. C.

Bro. & Sis. O. P. Baird are now on the first leg of their trip to Korea. At the present time they are visiting relatives in Texas. Around Sept. 1st. they will fly from the West Coast to their new work in Korea. Brethren in the Carolina's view their leaving with a note of sadness. Bro. Baird did a great deal to help the church in this area. He served on the Board of the Carolina Bible Camp. To say that they will be missed is an understatement, but in this new work we wish them the greatest success.

Bro. Royster Moss at Florence reports a very fine Vacation Bible School with good attendance and teaching. I was in Florence one day of the school and witnessed some of the good spirit that prevailed during the school.

We are glad to welcome to our state two new preachers. Bro. Schory is now working with the church in Georgetown, and Bro. Harold Simmons has moved to work at Sumter, S. C. We look forward to being with these brethren and know they will do much for the church in the low country.

Bro. R. I. Bullard will be leaving the work of the Riverside church here in Charleston on Oct. 23. As yet a preacher has not been selected to succeed him. If any brethren in the Carolina's are interested in this work, contact Bill Walton, 1750-B, Edgewater Park Rd., Charleston, S. C.

As this is being written the Folly Beach church in Charleston is engaged in a series of meetings. Bro. Gregory of White Bluff, Tenn., is preaching. One has been baptized to date. Bro. Kenneth Inabinett is the regular evangelist.

This writer will begin his fourth year with the Durant Ave. church the first of September. The past three years have been very pleasant. Our Vacation Bible School, which was held recently, resulted in the largest attendance in the history of the church. We had an average of 229 for each session. We plan a series of meetings for Sept. 16-23 with Bro. Jimmy Dorris of Nashville, Tenn., preaching. During the past six weeks we have had four to be baptized, three restored and one to place membership.

A new congregation is now meeting in Bamberg, S. C., a county seat with a hospital, radio station, and about 4000 population on U. S. 301. The nucleus is formed by 16 christians formerly going to Orangeburg, Williston, or Barnwell for worship. This would be a

wonderful opportunity for an evangelist looking for a field of labor. Outside support will be required. Correspondence can be addressed to L.L. Rawlings, Bamberg, S. C.

CHESTER, S. C.
Tom Bolick, Reporting

The Lord's church in Chester continues to grow at a record pace since it's beginning some six years ago. Thus far this year we have had eleven baptisms and good prospects for more in the near future. Our VBS the second week of August was another improvement with a daily average of 97 and a high day of 110. The members of this congregation all work in love and harmony, each bearing with the other, and all striving to glorify God. I know no congregation that can produce the unity that prevails here. The things that have been accomplished here are the results of God's blessings and hard work.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl E. Lancaster, Reporting

The meeting conducted by this congregation in Laurens, S. C. closed Aug. 17, after thirteen services. Nine articles were placed in the weekly newspaper (more than 285 column inches). Nineteen 15 minute radio programs were broadcast. Printed folders and personal invitations were taken to most of the homes in the city. The congregation invested little more than $500, most all of which went for newspaper space and radio time, and hundreds of man-hours of work. Very few non-members came from the Laurens---Clinton area. There were no responses. Many families at Augusta Road went night after night to this meeting. We know of several that drove more than 600 miles on these nightly trips to support this meeting with their presence. We do not regret the efforts that have been put forth. The Lord said, "Go..Preach.. to every creature". This we have endeavored to do. We believe that good will result from these efforts. The faithful Christians (four) who live in Laurens are anxious to see a man move there and work on a permanent basis in an effort to reach others in the city.

During August, contributions here were at an all time high, averaging $185.93 per week.

UNION, S. C.
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

The work here continues to be encouraging. Attendance at the Sunday morning services have averaged above 100 for some time now. Also, attendance at the evening service is increasing.

Bro. U. A. Hall will preach in a meeting here beginning September 16-26. Services on Sunday will be at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Weekday services will be at 7:30. There will be a singing on the 23rd at 3 p.m.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

Not too often do we have such an encouraging report to make but we wanted to share our good news with you. Recently, we set a new Bible Study record with 65 present. There were 74 present for the morning worship and 3 responses to the invitation.

The next Sunday, we were blessed with 64 in Bible Study and 66 for the worship and 1 response to the invitation. We are working for 75 in Sunday morning Bible Study by the time our meeting starts in September.

Our meeting with Johnny Sewell of Charlotte, N. C. is scheduled for September 17-25! Services will be at 7:30 each evening. We are hoping to have 150 present for the meeting.

OFFER EXTENDED

We have had such a good response to the offer of free subscriptions to elders that we are extending the deadline to October 1st. The rules are simple:

1. Send names and addresses of elders of the church.
2. You must know that they are actively engaged in the work of the eldership.
3. This information must reach us before October 2.

Send a year's free subscription to the elders so they may be better acquainted with the work in the Carolinas.

You are cordially invited to attend

a series of

Gospel Meetings

at the

Northeast

CHURCH of CHRIST

GREENACRE ROAD
(near Pleasantburg Shopping Center)

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

September 17-25

SERVICES EACH EVENING AT 7:30 p. m.

GUEST SPEAKER

Johnny Sewell

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

COME, BRING A FRIEND

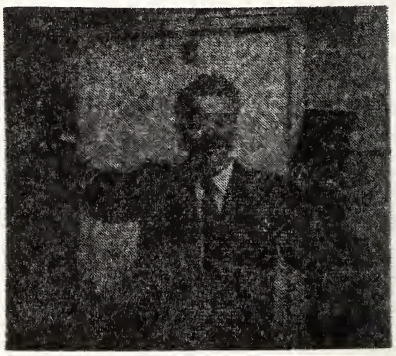
GOSPEL MEETING

Church of Christ

Rosedale at Brooks Avenue
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA



SPEAKER - C. W. Bradley
Winston-Salem, North Carolina



Frank Cahoon
leading the singing

Sept. 30 - Oct. 5

— EACH EVENING — 7:30 —

You Are Cordially Invited To Attend

Carolina
MESSENGER OF TRUTH



Church of Christ

Barnwell, South Carolina

1962 **October** 1962

What YOU Should Know About Our

PLANS FOR THE CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

After several delays, we are speeding forward our plans for the Messenger. We plan to be ready for a full report in the next issue.

LOOK for ANNOUNCEMENTS about:

1. Incorporation. An eleemosynary corporation is being formed.

2. Board of Directors. This board will have the responsibility of financing and directing the paper.

3. Change in place and personnel for publication.

4. Some changes in staff.

5. Wider and better organization.

6. Improvements in the paper.

7. Ways you may help the Messenger.

These and other items will be discussed in the November issue of the Messenger as directed by the board.

This past month a committee drew up proposed by-laws and other organizational requirements in order to apply for our charter. An organizational meeting will be held at which time the proposed editorial policy and by-laws will be adopted after changes, if any, are made. At this meeting the board will be formed and officers elected. The Board of Directors will then have charge of the Messenger.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAIL

"Let me toss another bouquet your way regarding the fine job you and the staff continue to do with the Messenger. I read with interest your comments in the last issue concerning your future plans. I sincerely hope you will be able to do what you plan. This work is too good to be stopped, or even hindered."

"I am very much interested in the Carolina Messenger of Truth, both now and in the future...I would also like to help in any other way that I can to make it more successful. Feel free to call on me for any service that I might be able to render."

"I think you are publishing a good paper, and I pray the Lord's blessings upon you and those who are associated with you."

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
Vol. IV OCTOBER 1962 No. 10

Editorial staff:
Burl Curtis, Editor
Noyles E. Sewell, N. C. News Editor
Billy Davidson, S. C. News Editor
Joe Costilow, Art Editor
Harold Scott, Circulation Manager

Preparation for mailing by members of the church in Greenville, S. C.

* *

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* *

Subscription price - individual, $2; clubs of five or more, $1.50; quantity, 10¢ ea. for 15 or more.

The Business Meeting

B. E. Davis
Seneca, S. C.

I once heard a man say, "More wrong-doing is committed in the church's business meetings than in any other thing the church does!"

Is this your belief, too? It ought not to be.

Of course, no one will deny that hasty, ill-thought-out, even unscriptural decisions are made by brethren sometimes, when they sit down together and make plans for the work of the church. But, this doesn't mean that ALL business meetings are wrong!

Let's remember this basic fact... An abuse of a practice is not an indictment of the practice itself. After all, if we quit doing everything that somebody had abused in some way, there would not be much left for us to do.

What we should do is this -- when we see an abuse, we should take steps to correct the abuse, not discontinue the scriptural act that is being abused! The pulpit is the most abused of all scriptural institutions, but this certainly does not mean that we should discontinue preaching.

ITS SCRIPTURALITY

Do we have any authority for the "business meeting?" Of course, nowhere in the New Testament do we have the words "...and they called a business meeting to discuss the problem..."

But there are several scriptures that do show how the brethren did meet for discussion of problems in the early church. For example, in Acts 6, Luke describes a problem. "...there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration."

How did they resolve this problem? Luke says, "Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said.." In plain, everyday language -- they had a business meeting! (Note the last word in verse 3).

Again, after Paul had returned from his first missionary tour, he made a report to the church in Antioch of his work. "And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them....." (Acts 14:27) This is another example of brethren meeting together to discuss the work of the gospel. There are other instances, scattered all through Acts.

Maybe you're thinking, "Well, those weren't the kind of business meetings we have!" Perhaps not. But, these scriptures do show us it is right for Christian people to meet together to discuss..plan ..decide..report...admonish one another. And this is what we should do in our business meetings today.

ABUSES OF BUSINESS MEETINGS

Each time I think of the disorganized, confused, even unruly meetings we see sometimes today, I am reminded of what Paul told the Corinthians, in chapter 14 of his first letter. Even though he was giving instructions on the use of spiritual gifts, note the close parallel between their disorderly worship, and our disorderly business meetings.

"When ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. (We might substitute here ".. hath an impulsive thought, hath a bright idea, hath a report from some gossip, hath orders from his wife. ED) "Let all things be done unto edifying."

"If any man speak...let it be by two, or at the most, by three, and that by course (or in order, that is, take turns. ED)."

"If anything be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace."

"Let all things be done decently and in order."

(see page 4)

BUSINESS MEETING (cont'd)

This is pretty good advice for any kind of a gathering, whether it be a business meeting or not! But, what are some examples of how we go wrong in our business meetings?

1. By allowing the business meeting to make all decisions, we usurp the authority of the elders! No one will deny that elders--if they are wise--often "feel out" the brethren on important matters that come before the church. This is good. But, we have seen this matter carried to an extreme, so that the elders actually have no authority at all. Everybody votes, on every decision, and the elders are sometimes out-voted! When this is done, then the youngest, most immature member of the church--the most worldly member--the stingiest, most avaricious person present--will have equal voice with the wisest, most godly Christian in the church, in making decisions. And this is not right! Elders may sometimes have to do things that some of the members may not like. This is one of the hardships of being a leader in the church. Let's not usurp this right.

2. The other extreme from the situation above would be where the elders caucus in private, and then just hand down the decisions to the brethren without their having a chance to express their views. This violates the spirit of Peter's admonition to elders to not act as "lords over God's heritage." Now, somewhere between these two extremes of "no authority" and "absolute boss" is the proper course.

3. We sometimes let "mob psychology" cause us to act unwisely. Emotions are contagious. An enthusiastic talker can persuade one or two in the business meeting that something should be done, and when two or three people begin to say, "I'm for it," the first thing you know, the whole group is convinced.

This works the other way, too. You have probably seen one of the members start a critical attack on someone (often the preacher) and it's very easy for the whole group to get into the spirit of this "personality dissection." Especially when the person being criticized is not present!

4. We forget to use proper rules of order in the meetings often. No one believes we should be bound tightly to strict parliamentary procedure, but some semblance of order and method should be apparent. Appoint someone to chairman the meeting, and encourage this person to see to it that order is observed, and that everyone who has a contribution to make has a chance to speak.

5. We sometimes discuss matters publicly that ought to be discussed privately. The shortcomings of some member of the church, for instance. This is where the elders can act, and stop any public discussion that they think should not be continued.

A lot of other abuses could probably be listed. These are not the only ones, nor are they necessarily the most important. But they are sufficient to show that we need to watch our conduct in business meetings, just as we do everywhere else.

If every Christian will act as a Christian should act---very few problems such as these will arise.

THE RESTORATION PLEA

Howard Winters
Wilmington, N. C.

The restoration plea, a plea to restore the order of things as they existed in the primitive church of Christ, with its distinct ideals, is, without doubt, the most significant concept of the religion of Christ in the modern world. This plea is designed to carry men back over the centuries, back beyond the ideals of the Reformation and the Dark Ages, back to the Bible and the Bible alone for every practice and belief in religious matters. And because the history of man is a history of departures from the old to the new (which in everything but religion is probably commendable), the need of a continued emphasis on the restoration plea is always evident. For this reason we make the following observations, which

(see page 6)

STATEMENTS AND QUESTIONS - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

Since so many have a limited knowledge of the Bible we examine the following oft heard questions and statements. Perhaps this will inspire someone to "search the scriptures" to see whether or not the things he hears are true. Very few, today, have a valid reason for not reading and studying the Bible. They possess the ability but their own negligence has made void this ability. May we encourage you to study.

ONE CAN BE SAVED "IN A MOMENT, IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE."

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump," is found in I Corinthians, chapter 15, verse 52. Salvation from sin is not the topic here but rather the change of the body. Paul has affirmed that all will not be dead "at the last trump" but all living will be changed (verse 51). The body will be changed from mortal to immortal, from corruptible to incorruptible. Therefore, the expression, "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye," does not refer to salvation from sin but to the change that will take place in the bodies of the living at the last trump. Salvation from sin and from its eternal damnation comes by obeying Christ (Acts 3:22, 23; Heb. 5:8, 9). After the initial obedience, faithfulness is required in order to obtain entrance into heaven (Rev. 2:10).

GOD IS "TOO GOOD" TO PUNISH THE WICKED IN HELL FIRE.

Was he "too good" to expel Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden? Was he "too good" to destroy the wicked in the flood or overthrow Sodom and Gomorrah, raining fire and brimstone out of heaven? Was he "too good" to turn Lot's wife into a pillar of salt when she disobeyed by looking back? Was he "too good" to bring plagues, ranging from darkness that could be felt to the death of the firstborn, upon wicked Egypt and finally drowning Pharoah and his army in the Red Sea? Was he "too good" to cause the children of Israel to wander in the wilderness until all of the original ones who started from Egypt were dead except Joshua and Caleb? Was he "too good" to refuse Moses entrance into the promised land of Canaan? Was he "too good" to destroy 23,000 Jews in one day because they committed fornication? Have you forgotten Nadab and Abihu, sons of Aaron, who offered strange fire unto the Lord? Fire went out from the Lord and devoured them. Did not God reject Saul as king of Israel because he obeyed not? Have you not read in the New Testament how Ananias and Sapphira met immediate death for lying to the Holy Spirit or how the angel of the Lord smote Herod, the king (Acts 5 and 12)?

God is definitely not "too good" to punish the wicked. Paul wrote, "Behold therefore the goodness and SEVERITY of God." Where will God punish the wicked? The rich man who died lifted up his eyes in hell saying, "For I am tormented in this flame." (Luke 16:22-24). Jesus preached that they were in danger of hell fire (Matt. 5:22). The angel instructed John to write that "whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Therefore, we conclude that God is very good but not "too good" to punish the wicked in hell fire. If you want to go to heaven, you will never again contend for this false statement (lie). The time has come for us to make our religion real.

THE CHURCH IS NOT IMPORTANT.

This statement grows out of a condition which exists in the present world. We have many different kinds of churches with different doctrines, practices and even different requirements for admission. They do not agree on what is required for salvation and remission of sins. In the

(see page 6)

STATEMENTS (cont'd)

midst of all this confusion, a man gives up and declares, "My church is not important. You do not have to be a member of my denomination to be saved," even though he attends it, belongs to it, gives his money and time to it, wears its name, believes most of its doctrine, rears his children in it and expects his funeral to be conducted in it when he dies.

"The church is not important" is a convenient admission. When one has discovered through Bible study that many items which his church believes and practices, even its name many times, cannot be found in the Bible, he is forced, by his own honesty to declare, "The church is not important!" Finally a man may conclude that there is not a church on the earth that goes exactly by the Bible, therefore, none of them are really important. Is this the only conclusion?

Churches of men cannot really be important if God has a church that we can be members of today. Does God and his son have a church? The Bible says, "Yes." Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build MY church (Matthew 16:18), and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." He kept his word and built that church and we can be members of it today. How important is that church? Important enough that Jesus purchased it with his own blood and is the saviour of it (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:23). Are there any members of it living on the earth today? There are and we can prove it.

DOES THE BIBLE TEACH THAT BAPTISM SAVES US?

To most churches, baptism is like a bad member. They don't like to talk about it but they all have one or more. Or to them it is like a bad relative to a family. They all have one or more, but not much is said about it. Why all the "hush" about baptism? Jesus, John the Baptist and the Apostles talked about it very freely. When did it become an unpopular subject?

Yes, the Bible teaches that baptism saves. Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved (Mark 16:16)" and Peter wrote, "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (I Peter 3:21)."

If people were as naive about other things as they are about religion, we would still be reading by the kerosene lamp, riding in the buggy and being schooled in the one room school house. We need to be progressive all right. We need to progress to God. To progress to God we must progress to the Bible. Then we'll be making real progress in religion. It seems to us that many have "progressed" away from God and his word as far as they are going to be permitted.

RESTORATION PLEA (cont'd)

are not meant to be exhaustive but only suggestive, on the restoration plea.

The restoration plea is a plea:

1. To restore the Bible as the only authoritative rule of faith and practice.

2. To restore the primitive church in all its pristine purity and beauty.

3. To restore the plan of salvation as announced by Christ and his apostles.

4. To restore the unity that prevailed in the early church, and thus to bring together into one body, the church, all true believers in and followers of Jesus Christ.

5. To restore congregational autonomy, the independence of each congregation of the Lord's people, as it was in apostolic days.

6. To restore the ancient worship of the church without the addition or the subtraction of a single act.

7. To restore Bible names to Bible things.

8. To restore the purity of life, the aloft-

(see page 7)

RESTORATION PLEA (cont'd)

ness from the world, as practiced by the early Christians.

To make such a plea is:

1. To reject all human creeds, for whatever intent or purpose written, as additions to the revealed will of God, as producing division which the word of God condemns, and as making human opinions authoritative doctrine and test of faith.

2. To reject all denominationalism as man-made and human built substitutions for the church of God.

3. To reject all human schemes for the redemption of man.

4. To reject all division among the people of God as sinful and as a curse, rather than a blessing, to the body of Christ, the church.

5. To reject all organizations beyond the local church, whether larger or smaller, to do the work of God as unscriptural and contrary to the plans and purposes of God.

6. To reject all rites and ceremonies after the traditions of men, every humanly devised act or practice, and all modern innovations in the worship of Christians.

7. To reject and repudiate all human names in religion.

8. To rejest all pleasures, fads and practices, whether modern or ancient, that do not contribute to the purity of the saints and that are identified with the world.

Questions arising from the foregoing considerations:

1. What book is better than the Bible as an authoritative rule of faith and practice?

2. What church is better than the primitive church?

3. What plan of salvation is better than that announced by Christ and his apostles?

4. What relationship is better than the unity of God's people?

5. What organization is better than the local congregation?

6. What worship is better than worship in spirit and in truth?

7. What names are better than the divine names?

8. What life is better than the Christian life?

WHY SOME FAIL

A noted psychologist was asked to give the reason why so many people failed in their efforts to make life successful. These frank and valid reasons were penned. Try them and see if they fit your life.

1. Finding fault with the other fellow but never seeing your own faults.
2. Doing as little as possible and trying to get as much as possible for it.
3. Spending much time showing up the other fellow's weak points, and too little correcting your own.
4. Slandering those we do not like.
5. Procrastination - putting off until tomorrow what we should have done day before yesterday.
6. Deceit - talking friendly to the other fellow's face and stabbing him in the back as he turns.
7. False belief that we are smart enough to reap a harvest of pay before sowing a crop of service.
8. Disloyalty to those who have trusted us.
9. Egotism - the belief that we know it all, and no man can tell us anything.

§ §
§ GOSPEL MEETING - Valdese, N. C. §
§ Oct. 21-28; 7:30pm B. Curtis, Evang. §

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS!

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Billy R. Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
N. Charleston, S. C.

There are many churches in South Carolina that have not, as yet, sent in a report of your activities. It is our hope that you will do this soon. Most of you print a weekly bulletin and if you would send it to me I could lift items of interest for this column. So I am requesting that you place me on your mailing list. Of course, we will be even happier if you will send us a report each month. In an area where the church is not strong, like this one, it will be to our advantage to let the brethren everywhere know of our activities. Will you help us inform others of your happenings?

The Riverside Park church here in Charleston has selected the man to replace Bro. Bullard. Bro. Gilbert Shaver of Indiana will be moving here and his first Sunday at Riverside will be on Nov. 11. We look forward to his coming and also pray that success will crown his efforts in this area.

The Durant Ave. church, where this writer preaches, is now engaged in a series of meetings with Bro. Jimmy Dorris, formerly of Barnwell, S. C., now from Nashville, Tenn., doing the preaching. He is doing a masterful job and good crowds are coming to hear him. To date there has been one added to the Lord's Body. This makes three baptisms and two restorations that we have had in the past month. For the thirty-seven months that we have been here we have now baptized 77. I am to be in Radford, Va., for a meeting the first two Sundays of Oct. The church here is sending me as a part of its mission program.

Following are reports as received.

ROCK HILL, S. C.
H. Grady Slatton, Reporting

William V. Pierce of Jacksonville, Fla., began work with the Rock Hill church on Aug. 19. Men of the congregation, together with guest preachers, took care of the services so that interest and attendance was kept at a normal level. Walter Billingsley conducted a week's meeting in June with the best interest thus shown by non-members. Perryman Denison is to be with us in a meeting Sept. 17 - 26.
EDITOR'S NOTE: We welcome this brother to our state. We look forward to meeting him and at the same time wish him and the church in Rock Hill the greatest success.

UNION, SOUTH CAROLINA
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

The work here continues to be encouraging. We had one of the best VBS in the history of this congregation, with an average attendance of 150. The attendance for all the night services have almost doubled since the first of the year. The 1963 Carolina Lectures will be held in Union the first week in April. I would like for all the preachers in the Carolinas to contact me so that I will have correct addresses. We want to use as many as possible on the program. I feel that the lectures will serve the Cause best if they are used to promote a spirit of greater fellowship and togetherness among the preachers & congregations of the Carolinas. To this end we solicit your help and prayers.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

In responses this has been our most successful month. Since August 26, we have had 9 (all restorations).

Our meeting with Johnny Sewell of Charlotte, N. C. was well attended with visitors coming from Valdese and Spindale, N.C. to Seneca, S.C., a span of over 100 miles. Several non-members visited our services for the first time. Bro. Sewell did his work in his usual "high-quality" fashion. There

were two restorations during the meeting.

Recently, one of our young ladies, Linda Campbell, left to attend Freed-Hardeman College in Henderson, Tenn. Linda will certainly be missed and we wish her a most profitable year at college.

ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
Ben W. Reid, Reporting
Bill Kates
Anderson, South Carolina

The Anderson church of Christ, Anderson, S. C. is seeking the services of a full time evangelist to work with us in an area of close to 100,000 people. Church attendance runs in the high 50's. The mid-week service is in the high 30's. This is a challenging area. If there is any one interested, please write giving full background, education, experience and references. Do not apply if you have any hobbies. Send all correspondence to me at the above address.

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
Edgewood Church of Christ
Ernest Thigpen, Reporting

The work here at Edgewood is progressing nicely. A spirit of unity, love and zeal seems to prevail. Attendance and contribution averages are holding up well. A great amount of interest is presently being shown in a personal work program in which members are given names of those who need spiritual exhortation or encouragement, and they visit them. This special program of personal visitation of the lost or erring will continue through our meeting. Bro. W. C. Gantt, of West Columbia, S. C., will do the preaching in our meeting which will be Oct. 14th through the 21st. Services will be nightly at 7:30. We plan to have the regular second Sunday singing on Oct. 14th at three o'clock. Last month we had one to confess wrong and be restored to fellowship. We covet the prayers of others in behalf of our gospel meeting and the work here.

N. C. NEWS, NOTES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
N. E. Sewell, Editor
Box 1083
Kinston, N. C.

Willard Conchin of Locksville held a meeting in Rockingham, N. C. early in September.

One week in September the High Point church had 6 responses.

The Greenville, N. C., congregation has started work on their building. They expect to be in their building around the end of November.

J. B. Grinstead of Glen Burnie, Md., was in a meeting at Pactolus, N. C., during September.

Kinston held a Sunday afternoon "sing" on September 23 which was attended by 148. A series of radio programs were recently devoted to a review of the pro-Communist propaganda contained in the Adult Student (Methodist church adult literature). This review is being mimeographed and a copy will be mailed to those who desire one. Write the editor, Box 1083, Kinston, N. C.

A meeting is in progress at this time in Raleigh with C. W. Bradley doing the preaching.

Meetings soon to begin: Joe Gray of Valdosta at Statesville. Johnny Sewell of Charlotte at Durham. Robert Bryson of Chattanooga at Wilmington. Jesse Melton of Wilson at Bonnie Doone in Fayetteville.

Jerry L. Richardson is now preaching for the South Main St. congregation in Winston-Salem, N. C.

Following are reports as received:

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA
Howard Winters, Reporting

Since my last report we have made a number of improvements in the work here. 1. We have completely reorganized our Bible Schools. 2. We have put forth an effort to restore (or rather establish) fellowship with the group that left the church here in February to start a new congregation at Carolina Beach. (The reason fellowship has not existed is because the brethren there left the church here in the wrong manner and for the wrong purpose.) 3. We have been making good use of our film strips in home studies--our aim is to have home studies five nights a week. 4. We have started a reorganization of our work program, which is designed, when completed, to give every Christian a specific work to do every week. 5. Attendance and contribution have been up. (In August we averaged more than 75 in attendance and upward of $78 in contribution. The first Sun-

day of Sept. our contribution was $108.65.) 7. Much improvement can be observed in attitude and action in the church's work. Brethren, keep your eyes on Wilmington:WE ARE ON OUR WAY UP

STATESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
Broad Street Church of Christ
Harold Scott, Reporting

This report covers June, July and August since we have not reported since last May. There have been 6 baptisms, 2 restorations this summer. Bro. Scott held a meeting in Wilmington, N. C. which resulted in one baptism. Our teachers began a certification program the first of July with a 5-hour teacher training course. All taking the course were awarded a certificate. New teachers complete one training course, and serve as assistant to an experienced teacher for a quarter before being given a class to teach on their own. In recognition of faithful attendance at our yearly teacher training course, monthly teacher meetings, and other teaching experience, a seal is awarded each year to be affixed to the certificate given at the end of the first course.

Our VBS in August averaged 147 each evening which was a little over capacity for our classroom situation. This will be improved by next year, however, as our new annex containing 5 new classrooms, office, and restrooms will be begun as soon as the plans are available from the architect. Also in Aug., 22 from here attended Carolina Bible Camp--4adults, 18 children.

Joe D. Gray of Valdosta, Ga., formerly of Durham, N. C. will hold our gospel meeting beginning Oct. 7-14.

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
Vance Street Congregation
Leslie G. Thomas, Reporting

It was my privilege to speak forty times during August, including ten lectures on church leadership in Asheville, and the preaching in meetings in Hendersonville and Kannapolis (my third at the latter place), North Carolina. James A. Davis and Jack G.Byars are the preachers at Hendersonville and Kannapolis. Bro. Davis preached in Asheville during the Hendersonville meeting and baptized one. The singing at the two places was led by Donald Roe and Willard Conchin, respectively. My next scheduled meeting is with the Poinsett congregation in Greenville, S. C., October 22-28, 1962.

CLEMMONS, NORTH CAROLINA
Warners Chapel Congregation
W. J. (Bill) Perkins, Reporting

Recently two have been baptized, one Moravian, one Baptist. While the nearby colored congregation's preacher was away, they asked me to baptise two. Bro. Clifford Davis was in Florida conducting meetings in which 17 were baptized. The work here and at the colored congregation has been encouraging. Our radio work has seen increased interest lately as Unity Vs. Denominationalism and the Eccumenical Movement has been discussed. On Labor Day from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. we had an enjoyable program of fellowship and fun, including talks by two teenagers, Floyd Kirby and Dickson Settle. Royster Moss of Florence, S.C. delivered a fine lesson on teenage problems and Olan Hicks of High Point, N. C. led a discussion of Church-State Separation. A local newspaper editor spoke about known Communists in our area and how they have worked. A large picnic and games were enjoyed during intermission from 12 to 2 p.m. The attendance was fine although not as large as our first year, partly due to school being conducted this year in three counties--230 teenagers and several dozen adults attended. We recommend such a program and get-together for christians in other areas. How about the Fourth of July or another holiday?

WILSON, NORTH CAROLINA
Jesse Melton, Reporting

Our attendance has returned to a "normal" figure after vacations, meeting work, etc. We are now running in the low twenties for the 11 o'clock service. We are planning an additional class in our Bible school beginning Oct. 7.

An architect will begin work on the plans for our proposed building within a few weeks. We still need about $800 to clear our building lots.

I will be in a meeting with the Bonnie Doone church in Fayetteville, N. C., Oct. 15-21. Your presence and encouragement will be greatly appreciated by the christians in this city.

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
Plaza Congregation
Hoyle Burton, Reporting

The work of the church is truly prospering in this area. Since our last report, we have been blessed with three baptisms of three fine young men. We rejoice in our work for the Lord and commend these men for their decision to obey God's word. We pray that many others will also realize the importance of their salvation and turn to God.

We were very fortunate in having Bro. T. A. Isaacs from New Orleans as a guest speaker. Bro. Isaacs formerly labored with us at the Plaza. Our prayers certainly are with him in his endeavor to preach the Gospel.

We are also glad that the work of the church is progressing in that the elders are presently undertaking the task of securing additional elders and deacons. Two of the deacons from the Plaza have been transferred out of town and two others are now laboring with the new Westside Congregation. We solicit your prayers in this and all other phases of our work in the church.

MOCKSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
North Main Street Congregation
Carmen Walker, Reporting

Our fall meeting is planned for September 30-October 7 with J. B. Whitaker of Rockingham, N. C., doing the preaching. This will be an exchange meeting with the Rockingham congregation. Bro. Conchin has just returned from holding their fall meeting.

Bro. Conchin has also recently led the singing in a meeting at Kannapolis, N. C. During his absence several of the brethren took over in the pulpit. We appreciate their fine efforts and have enjoyed their lessons very much. The congregation here is very fortunate in having men with this capability.

We are on the air! Yes, at 9:30 each Sunday morning we have a 15 minute program on the county's new radio station WSDC, 1560 on your dial. Bro. Conchin is currently bringing a series of lessons entitled "The Bible." We invite all to listen whenever possible.

SPINDALE, NORTH CAROLINA
Waymon Love, Reporting

It is good to be back in Western North Carolina after working for about two years with the Central Avenue congregation in Augusta, Ga.

The area singing will be at our meeting place (Deviney St. at Woodlyn Lane) on Sunday, October 21, 1962, at 3:00 p.m. There will be folks attending from Statesville, N. C., Augusta, Ga., and as far away as Old Hickory, Tenn. Look for our sign on Highway 74 as you come through Spindale. Many of you remember one year ago on this date when 221 assembled for the first service of the church in Spindale. We are planning to exceed that figure on Oct. 21 by setting as a goal 225.

The church in Spindale consists of only 12 members, yet we have already made our decision to be the first of 26 congregations needed to put $117.00 toward the first 52 programs of the "Herald of Truth" TV program on WLOS--TV, Channel 13, Asheville. Brethren, as you remember, we had the "Herald of Truth" series on this fine, powerful channel 13 while I was with the Vance St. Congregation in Asheville. The station would like to see it back on and have made us a better rate than before. Let's see the pure gospel back on Channel 13!

LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Walter Neal has recently moved to work with the church in Lexington, N. C.

UNION, SOUTH CAROLINA
Milton S. Parker, Reporting

September was one of our best months of the year in many ways. Attendance was up for all the services. Bro. U. A. Hall did the preaching in a ten day meeting. There were twelve additions, six baptized and six restored. Attendance for all services during the meeting averaged 113. We are planning for a teacher work shop in the near future.

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

Several steps have been taken recently in an effort to improve our Bible classes. Ceilings are being installed in our basement class rooms & the walls are being painted. A teacher training class is underway.



ARE ALL BELIEVERS SAVED?

Many people accept a doctrine that all one has to do to be saved is to believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Is this the teaching of the Bible?

UNSAVED BELIEVERS

The Demons Believe

Numerous examples are recorded in the Bible of those who became believers on Christ yet were unsaved. James gave one such example as he described the spiritual condition of the demons: "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble" (James 2:19).

Believers Baptized

When Peter preached the first gospel sermon on the day of Pentecost, thousands of Jews became believers as the Word of God was spoken. But they were yet unsaved believers for they asked, "What shall we do?" Peter answered these believers, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ . . ." (Acts 2:38).

Another Unsaved Believer

Saul of Tarsus became a believer in Christ when the light from heaven blinded him on the Damascus Road, but he was unsaved. This believer asked Jesus, "What will thou have me to do?" Acts 9:6). The Lord answered "Arise, and go into the city and it shall be told thee what thou must do" (Acts 9:6). The Lord sent Ananias to tell him to . . . "' arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins" (Acts 22:16). Thus, he could not have been saved, even though he was a believer, for he was yet in his sins.

Believers Deny Christ

John recorded the story of a group of Jews who became believers in Jesus, yet they would not confess Him. (John 12:42). Jesus said, "But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I deny before my father which is in heaven." (Matthew 10:33). These examples prove conclusively that a person can believe on Jesus Christ as the Son of God and still be eternally lost.

These Bible examples enable us to see and understand that some WERE BELIEVERS, yet WERE NOT SAVED. We understand also that those who were BELIEVERS OBEDIENT to God's commands were justified before Him. ". . . he (Christ) became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that OBEY him." Hebrews 5:9.

SAVED BELIEVERS

There are also many examples of those who became believers in Jesus who were saved because their faith was active and working. "For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but fath which worketh by love." Galatian 5:6.

Christ's Last Words

When Christ made known the terms of salvation He hold his disciples, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:15-16.

Believers in Samaria

"Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them . . . But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Acts 8:5, 12. These believers were obedient to the command of Christ to be baptized.

Simon Believes

Another example from the New Testament is that of Simon, who, as a believer, obeyed the Lord's command. "Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip." Acts 8:13.

Ethiopian Eunuch

The queen's treasurer, when returning from Jerusalem, was joined by Philip who "preached unto him Jesus," which resulted in this man asking to be baptized. "And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest." The treasurer confessed his faith in Christ and was baptized . . . and went on his way rejoining." Acts 8:35-39.

Believers Have Power To Be Saved

The apostle John said, by inspiration, "But as many as received him, to them gave he **power to become** the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." John 1:12. Our Lord did not say that one becomes a child of God by faith alone, but one who DOES BELIEVE in Christ has POWER TO BECOME God's child. His faith makes his heart receptive to further commands of Jesus to repent, to be baptized for the remission of sins and to enjoy the blessing of forgiveness.

You are always welcome at the

CHURCHES OF CHRIST

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

"THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST SALUTE YOU."

..... a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. Luke 12:15

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November, 1962 Volume IV, Number 11

EDITORIAL-PLANNING AHEAD

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

Congregations are slowly beginning to see the value of planning ahead more than one year. Some plan 5, 10 or 20 years ahead. Too often in the past, if a congregation had its meetings "lined up" for the next year, plans were considered in good shape. We are now beginning to see that such "short-sighted" planning is inferior, very costly, given to little direction and often misdirection and fails to present the proper challenge to a congregation.

PLAN TO KEEP A GOOD PREACHER SEVERAL YEARS! Most congregations do not "plan" for the preacher to move so soon BUT neither do they "plan" for him to stay several years. If the right man is able to do a good work the first three or four years, he should be able to do a better work the next three or four. Congregations should plan to keep a good man, who fits well into the work, for several years and they should let the preacher know this. Salary, encouragement, cooperation and general understanding should be adequately maintained so the preacher feels that he CAN stay. Many times a preacher would like to stay but he feels it would be much better if he moved on.

Remember, a congregation builds a reputation just as the preacher does (Revelation 3:1). When a congregation that has the "Name" of changing preachers every year or two gets in touch with an experienced preacher, he will often ask, "What is your preacher turn-over?" Usually, the better preachers are not interested in moving into a community and about the time he gets pretty well acquainted, he is "fired" or if you prefer, is asked to move on.

PLAN YEARS AHEAD BEFORE YOU BUILD! So many costly mistakes have been made because brethren did not plan far enough ahead when they started t build. Many building sites are selecte because "Aunt Jane" or "Uncle Ben" o "Grandma Moses" was willing to give t the church a small lot located well behin most everything in a very undesirabl neighborhood. Oh yes, the brethren kne where a large, well-located lot was bu they were too fearful and covetous to pur chase it. Constantly, thereafter, you wil hear, "Why was the building built in suc a poor location?"

Basically, as we see it, there are onl two major ways to build. First, you ma plan the building with plenty of classroom to accommodate a congregation of a cer tain size. When the building is filled, yo plan to establish another congregatio This allows the building to be built as on unit and there will never be the necessit to alter it. Second, you may purchas enough land and so plan that you may con tinue to enlarge your building. Again, yo should know the maximum size of the con gregation planned for in order to buil wisely. Usually, the congregation start out with the educational unit, then add an auditorium which later can be mad into additional classrooms and finall builds the larger auditorium. With prop er planning these three steps can be take with very little waste.

BUT how is it done where there is tc little planning? An auditorium may b erected to seat 200 and classrooms fo only 100 or a building may be so poor located from the start that later on th building is sold, at tremendous loss, ar the congregation that should be spendin heavily for mission work is still spendin heavily for a second building. Then ther is the "freak" that our poor planning pro duces. A building is added to, taken fron raised, lowered, moved around and twis ted so that it runs out in all direction The very place where we worship God be comes the architect's joke. We have r criticism of those who cannot do bette

(See page 4)

ORGANIZED AND ALL THINGS "GO"

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

The big moment has arrived. Much prayer, deliberation and sacrifice has brought us to this point. By the grace of God, we now are chartered as an eleemosynary corporation to be known as Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. the purpose of which shall be to print and distribute religious literature. An original board of directors has been selected and immediately steps were taken to enlarge and improve the Carolina Messenger of Truth.

Two previously selected committees, working separately and at different times, drew up the proposed editorial policy and by-laws. Carl Lancaster, who served on both committees, was requested to write several interested people whom it was believed would be suitable and willing directors of the corporation. On October 5, an organizational meeting was held in Charlotte, N. C. and the following board and their officers were selected: Carl Lancaster, Greenville, S. C., Chairman, J. Rudy Senn, Duncan, S. C., Vice-Chairman, Johnny C. Sewell, Charlotte, N. C., Secretary, Richard Eppley, Charlotte, N. C., Treasurer, Harold L. Scott, Statesville, N. C., Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C., Bill G. Smith, Valdese, N. C., and Royster E. Moss, Florence, S. C. (At the second directors meeting an additional member, Kenneth Durham of Charlotte, N. C., was accepted.)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

IME IV NOVEMBER 1962 NUMBER 1

RIAL AND PUBLICATION STAFF:
Burl Curtis, Editor — Billy Davidson, S. C. News Editor
Carl Hyder, Publisher — Harold Scott, Circulation Manager
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RIPTION PRICES: individual, $2.00 per year; club of five or more, $1.50
r; quantity, 10¢ for 15 or more.

The editorial policy of the Carolina Messenger, as adopted by the directors is as follows: (1) To publish news of mutual interest which edifies; (2) To publish articles that edify; (3) To inform others of mission opportunities in the Carolinas; (4) To encourage Carolina churches to evangelize; (5) To plead for the complete restoration of New Testament Christianity and (6) to accept articles and advertizing which promote unity of the faith.

After considerable discussion, the by-laws of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. were adopted with little change by the directors as proposed by the committee. It is of interest here to note that every effort was made to make sure that the paper would not be controlled by those who are unwilling to walk and talk according to the Word of God and especially those who would bind laws where God has not bound them and are unwilling to heed the admonition, "But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes "II Tim. 2:23. A director must be a resident of either North or South Carolina, must be willing to assume the responsibility of directing and financing the paper; must be a faithful member of the Lord's church, active in the constructive work of the congregation of which he is a member, must attend directors meetings and must pay any and all assessment levied by the directors upon themselves. It is a great responsibility and a great HONOR to be a director of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. Anytime you see a director you can say, "There is an individual who has "paid" to have a suitable religious publication sending forth the "news and needs" of the Carolinas.

Burl Curtis was asked to continue as editor of the Messenger and was given the right to select the full staff subject to the approval of the directors. The paper will be printed in Charlotte, N. C. by Carl Hyder who has had considerable experience in the printing trade. Bro. Hyder

ORGANIZED (cont'd)

will have additional time to print stationery, calling cards, tracts, leaflets, brochures, etc., and we solicit your business because this will be an important avenue of subsidy for the paper.

Three improvements are to be immediately made: (1) Each issue shall be at least 16 instead of 12 pages. (2) More "color" will be used. (3) No copy will be set from a regular typewriter. Considerable difficulty has been encountered in the past because of the necessity to type the "news" with a standard typewriter.

Other decisions of the directors are: (1) To launch immediately a subscription campaign. A goal of 1,500 new subscriptions by January 1st. was agreed upon. We need your help in this drive. Certainly anyone in the Carolinas should subscribe to the paper plus elders of all congregations everywhere. Many larger congregations have mission committees whose main responsibility is to look out places where mission work should be done. Every man on a mission committee should receive the Messenger. Hundreds of former residents of the Carolinas would be interested in this publication. (2) To select a new and better name for the publication. The staff was appointed as a committee to solicit suggestions for renaming the Messenger. If you have a suggestion, please send it to the editor or any staff member giving your reason, if you wish to, for the new name.

Those who have been responsible for previous publication of the Messenger are very thankful for this wider interest. The paper will certainly have greater permanency and the work of directing, publishing, distributing and financing can be shared by more people, relieving the heavy burden of a few.

NOTICE Please do not use the old Easley address. The box has been discontinued.

PLANNING AHEAD (cont'd)

but surely it is inexcuseable when all that was necessary to prevent such a "mess" was sufficient pre-planning.

PLAN TO GROW! Some churches are content to remain the same size but this is a mistake. Sometimes after a congregation get into a new building they take the attitude that we have it made so we will now sit down and take it easy. Others are content to rest when the building is full. Each member must be charged to grow, to win others to Christ, no matter what the circumstance may be around us. Most of the funds should be allocated to sow the seed and reap the harvest. Although there is no way to know the speed and make provisions for this expected growth. So many times the growth exceeds our planning. Plan ahead for great growth over the next 10 or 15 years.

PLAN TO DO MISSION WORK! The time to begin teaching on doing mission work is the day the congregation is established. It should be continued all along and intensified when the congregation becomes able to send even a small amount to mission work.

We MUST do mission work out of debt or gratitude. Not only are we in debt to the Lord, but we are in debt to others. We seriously doubt that there is a congregation anywhere in the Carolinas that has not received some "outside" help in some form. Some, we know, have received above $30,000 in such help. All have received either free meetings, tracts, cash donations for building or preacher's support, or songbooks and other materials. Brethren, the only way we can repay this debt is to do mission work. Surely, God will turn into hell any church that is so ungrateful when, after receiving so much, will not help others. Churches in the Carolinas should plan to support one or more full-time worker as soon as they are able.

(See Page 5)

PLANNING AHEAD (cont'd)

Finally, is it right to borrow money to provide a house in which to worship God and fail to borrow money so that others may know God?

--Help us improve the paper--

BOOK COMMITTEE REPORT

A committee, composed of C. W. Bradley, Willard Conchin, Burl Curtis, Carl Lancaster and Gordon Teffeteller, the fifth man, met recently in Charlotte, N. C.

The committee decided to formally ask Leslie G. Thomas to edit the book.

Carl Lancaster, 52 N. Estate Drive, Greenville, S. C., was selected to contact all the preachers in S. C. and request that they submit three sermon topics, with synopsis of each, for consideration. Gordon Teffeteller, Box 965, Durham, N. C., was requested to do the same for N. C. The deadline for these topics is December 1. The committee is desirous that all preachers be given an opportunity to submit a manuscript for the book.

Manuscripts will be selected on the basis of originality, quality of composition and subject material and how well the individual sermon relates to all others as a whole.

Willard Conchin will have a full report in the December issue.

NEW DIRECTORY??

Some have mentioned the need to bring out a new directory of churches of Christ in the Carolinas. Would you be interested in this? If so please let us know. We will be happy to publish it if you want it. It does untold good for the work here.

I'D RATHER SEE A SERMON!

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day.

I'd rather one would walk with me than merely tell the way.

For the eye is a better pupil and more willing than the ear;

Fine counsel is confusing, but example is always clear.

And the best of all the preachers are men who live their creeds,

For to see good put into action is what everybody needs.

I can learn how to do it if you let me see it done;

I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue, it too fast may run.

And the lectures you may deliver may be very wise and true,

But I'd rather get my lesson by observing what you do;

For I may misunderstand you and the fine advice you give,

But there is no misunderstanding how you act and how you live.

When I see a deed of kindness, then I am eager to be kind;

When a weaker brother stumbles and a stronger stays behind,

Just to see if he can help him, then the wish grows strong in me,

To become as big and as thoughtful as I know that friend to be.

And all travelers will witness that the best of guides today,

Are not the ones that tell them, but the ones that show the way.

One good man teaches many; men believe what they behold;

One act of kindness noticed is worth forty that are told;

Who stands with men of honor learns to hold his honor dear,

For right living speaks a language that to every one is clear.

COVETOUSNESS, WHICH IS IDOLATRY

Leslie G. Thomas
Asheville, N.C.

"Put to death therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry; for which things' sake cometh the wrath of God upon the sons of disobedience." (Colossians 3:5, 6.)

If the Lord's people really understood and believed Paul's declaration regarding the sin of covetousness, what a difference it would make in their lives! We do not hesitate to send missionaries to foreign lands, in order to try to convert people from idolatry; but what about the idolaters in our midst? When Paul wrote our First Corinthians, he said this, "I wrote unto you in my epistle to have no company with fornicators; not at all meaning with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous and extortioners; for then must ye needs go out of the world; but as it is, I wrote unto you not to keep company, if any man that is named a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such a one no, not to eat." (I Corinthians 5:9-11.)

The sins which Paul mentions in the passage just quoted are grave enough to merit disfellowship by faithful brethren. In commenting on these verses, Nichol and Whiteside have this to say: "Paul plainly states

--GOAL - 1,500 new subscriptions--

that he does not have reference to those of the world, for he says it would be necessary that you go out of the world to avoid them; but if a man is called a brother, with that man, if he be guilty, having withdrawn from him, you must not eat. If reference is had by this passage to the Lord's Supper, then with such characters who belong to the world you may eat the Lord's Supper. If your attitude before and after withdrawal is the same toward the one withdrawn from, wherein does he find force of his discipline and what can be the impression made on the world by your course?" (Sound Doctrine, Vol. III, p. 118.)

THE MEANING OF THE TERMS

After learning something of the seriousness of the sin of covetousness, we should certainly want to know what it means to be

--PLEASE renew your subscription--

guilty of such a crime, and just how one can know that a "brother" is a covetous person. The original word for "covetousness" is pleonexia, and it means greediness, the wish to have more, an insatiable love of money. The original term for "covetous" is pleonektes, and, as one would expect, it means a lover of money, one who not only holds on to that which he has in his possession, but who also craves more. It is easy to see from these definitions why covetousness is idolatry; it describes one's feelings and attitude toward his material possessions. An idol, in the language of The New Standard Dictionary, may be any person or thing exalted as the chief good, or made an object of supreme devotion; anything that absorbs one's attention or aspirations; as, money is his god.

Jesus lays down the general principle by which the character of a person may be identified, when he says, "By their fruits ye shall know them." (Matthew 7:16; read also verses 15-20.) Another similar criterion is set forth in the reaction of such people to the teaching of the New Testament regarding one's attitude toward his worldly possessions. After telling his audience how to use their wealth, Luke adds, "And the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things: and

they scoffed at him." And it was then that the Lord calmly replied, "Ye are they that justify yourselves in the sight of men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God." (See Luke 16:9-15.)

The first recorded statement of church history reads as follows: "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers." (Acts 2:42.) The term "fellowship" means, according to Vincent (Word Studies in the New Testament), "a relation between individuals which involves a common interest and a mutual, active participation in that interest and in each other." With this idea of "common interest" and "active participation" in mind, it should be obvious, even to the superficial, that any person who is financially able, but who will not assume financial responsibility for the work of the church, is certainly a covetous individual; and, as such, is an idolater.

THE LORD'S ADMONITION

"And he said unto them, Take heed, and keep yourselves from all covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth... So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." (Luke 13: 15, 21. Read the entire paragraph verses 13-21.) There are some basic reasons, according to the teaching of Jesus, why the mere quest of wealth is both

--Remember our subscription drive--

unsatisfactory and sinful. Four of those reasons are listed here:

The first is the most obvious: Riches and all the things which they represent are ephemeral. Charles Foster Kent has observed that "men may defend their devotd quest of wealth by a multiplicity of reasons, but they cannot eliminate the stubborn fact that its nature at the most is exceedingly brief and the pleasures which mere things contribute are extremely limited." (Cf. I Timothy 6:9, 10.)

A second reason why the selfish quest of riches is unsatisfactory and sinful is because it dwarfs and destroys human personality; according to Jesus, it is his most precious possession. "For what shall a man be profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? or what shall a man give in exchange for his life?" (Matthew 16:26; cf. 6:22, 23.)

--Order the paper in bundles--

A third reason why the amassing of wealth should not be made the ruling motive of life is because it leads men to forget the value of human beings, and dulls their sense of brotherhood. (See Acts 4:32-35.) Compare the policies of corporations and individuals who are actuated by this spirit. They often herd their employees together and treat them as so many beasts of burden. (Cf. James 5:1-6.)

The fourth and most important reason why the mere quest of wealth as an end in itself is unsatisfactory and sinful is that it is incompatible with true love and loyalty to God, which is the condition he requires of all who are acceptable to him; and since it is utterly impossible for a man to have two primary aims in life at the same time, the absorbing pursuit of wealth as an end in itself should be strictly avoided. "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." (Matthew 6:24.)

"So once for all put to death your lower, earthly nature with respect to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which is real idolatry. It is on account of these very sins that God's anger is coming." (Williams' translation)

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Please remember to send your change of address as soon as possible!!

THE CALL FOR LABORERS

Royster E. Moss
Florence, S. C.

"Therefore said he unto them. The harvest truly is great, but the labourers few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2) Christ with the utterance of this passage, saw the need then and now. There are many laborers in the fields, but compared to the harvest, they are far too few to get in the harvest.

Among the many intrigues of beautiful scenery I always include fields of grain, bending back and forth with the rifts of wind, touched with the golden hue of ripeness, ready to become the very staff of life for people throughout the world.

It would be considered a tragedy and a waste to deliberately and idly let the fields of grain grow into golden ripeness, then deteriorate and fall to the ground unattended, unwanted and unused. It makes us feel rather sick, a great awe overtakes us and our hearts become heavy, when we see fields of grain going to utter waste. "Why has this neglect been allowed to happen?" we find ourselves asking. "Are there not not reasons for such a waste of the harvest?" Yet, the waste, the neglect, goes on day after day and year after year in the Lord's church without the flutter of an eye lash. We have become blinded to the value of the harvest. Our feelings have been so desensitized, we no longer realize the need in the harvest fields; we no longer hear the cry for laborers coming from the fields.

An alert, experienced farmer knows when a field of grain is ready to be harvested. Often the harvest is so great, and the urgence is such a demanding force, it is necessary to call in additional laborers to reap the harvest in its prime. Rain, mold, weed infiltration, and other damaging elements work against the harvest, threatening its safety, even with many laborers working from dawn until dusk, in the harvest. The devil works more rapidly when the laborers are lazy and neglectful, even taking the harvest for himself, where the laborers are so few in the harvest of souls.

Just how important is the harvest for God in our day? It would be shocking, if the church were like the man I heard about not long ago. He had compiled large granaries for storage of grain. The new elevators were placed in operation. It seemed that everything was ready for a huge harvest. But then a tragedy occurred. He looked for shade and upon finding it, he sat down and prayed loud and long, Lord send in the harvest. It is no wonder that men in white coats came and took him to a hospital.

We have more buildings, some of them new, and more adequate facilities being added continuously in the Carolinas. We need more buildings, more facilities and more congregations established. But do we dare advocate the philosophy, we will keep the doors open and if people want to come and to hear the truth, they will come to us? "Go your ways: behold. I send you forth as lambs among wolves." (Luke 10:3 The sounding orders in the diciples ears "Go!" A harvest has never yet harvested itself. Where there is no harvest there i no life. The harvest is the life line of th church. We have been given the necessar tool to reap the harvest, the Bible. Bu this tool has to be put into action throug classes, sermons, personal work, tracts radio and television and many other ave nues of teaching and preaching. We mus use the machinery to its full capacity o full value will not be received, the harves will not yield as much as it could.

During the harvest of grain all hands ar busy. The ground is prepared, the seed sown, the crop cultivated with the prop machinery in good repair. The big, th little, the old and the young are workin either in the home or in the field, all ha a job. If anyone of these workers s the harvest is hindered. Full cooperati is needed for the big harvest. Every litt

CALL FOR LABORERS (cont'd)

cup of grain is important, even the absence of one worker cuts the intake of grain.

Everyone has an important job in the harvest for souls. Not just the elders, deacons, teachers and preachers, but all members of the local congregation. Every member of every congregation continuously making plans for the harvest, praying daily studying always, can put wheels to their plans. We often let storms of doubts, fear and discouragement rage within us. "Go your ways: behold. I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor script, nor shoes; and salute no man by the way." (Luke 10:3-4) By nature lambs do not make friends with wolves, but the wolves devour the lambs. We see these diciples being sent into the harvest as lambs to work among the wolves. They were charged to take nothing of their physical wants with them, and to be in such haste in doing the Lord's work in the harvest, that they stop and greet no one in a usual custom. Their charge was great, work urgent. They were not told to wait for a time of convenience, or to first think of their own personal needs. We here in the Carolinas may consider ourselves to be among wolves in the harvest, but the wolves will not and cannot destroy us, unless we become lazy and sluggish, going to sleep, allowing the wolves to move in upon the kill. We can gather much strength from Philippians 4:13 "I can do all thing's through Christ which strengtheneth me."

On the day of Pentecost the diciples worked for the harvest. If someone had suggested to them, let us just keep the door open, they would have been over run by the harvesters going to the harvest fields. The diciples had enlarged vision. They went from house to house to reap a harvest of souls.

A constant prayer of those already in the fields is for the Lord to send forth fellow-workers. Let us not look elsewhere for these workers, we have many sitting, unemployed in the harvest, on pews every Sunday in our local congregations. They need to be aroused out of their deep sleep and made aware of the wolves around us. Every Christian in every congregation has a field to harvest. Will we bring in the harvest personally? Will we wait, let our fields go neglected, while we wait for someone to do the job for us? "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. (John 9:4.)

--Don't miss the ad on the back cover--

TRUE RELIGION vs. FALSE RELIGION

The New Testament not only describes true religion, but contrasts it with false religion. For example:

In true religion, Christ is the only head of the church, with ALL authority in heaven and on earth (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:22). In false religion, a man is the head of the church. See the remarkable description of false religion in 2 Thess. 2:1-12 of a "man--sitting in the temple of God--exalting himself, setting himself forth as God."

The true religion of Christ is the oldest, starting with Christ and the apostles. False religion is almost as old, starting even during the lifetime of Paul (2 Thess. 2:7). Both shall endure to the second coming of Christ (2 Thess. 2:8).

True religion esteems the Bible to be a complete and perfect guide (2 Tim. 3:16, 17). False religion considers the Bible incomplete and adds to it the opinions of men (Matt. 15:9).

True religion teaches that marriage is honorable in ALL (Heb. 13:4). False religion teaches celibacy (1 Tim. 4:1-3).

True religion teaches that meats are to be received with thanksgiving. False religions forbid meats (1 Tim. 4:1-5).

True religion has no titles of distinction for men. False religion abounds in titles of distinction (Matt. 23:8, 9. "Call no man father").

CHURCH NEWS!

AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT

The following letter was received from Howard Winters of Wilmington, N. C.:

"I am enclosing a statement concerning the church here and at Carolina Beach. I promised all concerned here that I would send it to you and then leave it up to you as whether to publish it or not. However, I do feel that it would be of great interest to many, especially in North Carolina, who have followed the trouble here with great anxiety.

I am just thinking: How thankful we ought to be that we have a paper such as the Messenger through which we can spread such good news as this."

When Brother N. E. Sewell resigned the work in Wilmington, N. C., the church secured W. Richard Judd as a preacher. Brother Judd had no more than moved here until it was obvious that the church was in for a great deal of trouble. In about six months all the trouble, whether justly or unjustly, seemed to center around Brother Judd, himself. And after nine months the church (or as Brother Judd contended, a part of the church) relieved him of his duty. Because all the men were not present in the meeting in which this decision was made, Brother Judd, with the backing of some of the members, announced that unless the decision was reconsidered a new congregation would be established, consisting of members from the Wilmington church, at Carolina Beach. The Wilmington church felt that it could not rescind its decision and that reconsideration was useless. Thus Brother Judd, along with several members of the Wilmington church, started a new congregation at Carolina Beach in February of this year. Up until now fellowship between the two groups did not exist.

When I moved here on **July 1**, I began to work toward establishing fellowship. About the middle of July, I, by the authority of the church, sent a letter to the church at the beach asking the men there to meet with the men here for the purpose of dissolving our problems. The meeting was held on August 16. It was ascertained by both groups that there was no Scriptural reason why fellowship could not be established. However, Brother Judd spoke up and named some things that he said he felt the church here ought to do. We understood them as impossible stipulations to be met before fellowship could be had. We then dismissed the meeting with the conclusion that all that stood between the churches, as far as fellowship was concerned, was Brother Judd.

During our meeting, October 15-21, Brother Judd, around whom the whole trouble seemed to center, came forward and made a public confession of any sin that he may have been guilty of in the whole affair and asked forgiveness of both God and the church. Brother Judd stated: 1. that he was willing to repent of any trouble that he might have caused; 2. that he wanted to do what was right--that he wanted to go to heaven; 3. that he wanted the fellowship of this as well as all other congregations of the Lord's people; and 4. that he was not wholly responsible for starting the church at the beach.

The church here gladly accepted Brother Judd back into fellowship. And as far as we can ascertain, this confession on Brother Judd's part has cleared up the whole difficulty between the two churches. Consequently, we are now in full fellowship with each other. Thus we ask brethren everywhere to take note of this: 1. The churches in Wilmington and Carolina Beach are in full fellowship; 2. that the trouble of the past has been resolved--old sins have been forgiven and we are now

STATEMENT (cont'd)

sister congregations in the Lord's work; 3. that there is now nothing between the Wilmington church and Brother Judd--old mistakes are being forgotten and ill-feelings are being crushed; 4. that there is no reason why brethren everywhere should not recognize the church at Carolina Beach as a true congregation of the Lord's people; 5. that brethren everywhere should get behind the efforts at the beach and help us (directly the church there but indirectly the church here also) build a strong church at Carolina Beach.

Both the church in Wilmington and the brethren at the beach felt that it was best for the Lord's cause, since Carolina Beach is more than 15 miles away, for the church to continue to meet at the beach, but from henceforth with full fellowship from us and with complete recognition that it is a true and faithful congregation of God's people. This we now take pride in doing. And, we call to your attention the fact, that this means a new congregation in North Carolina. (Of course the church has existed since February, but to our knowledge no church has recognized it because of the manner in which it was started. But it can now be recognized by all of God's people.)

NEWS FROM THE PALMETTO STATE
Billy R. Davidson, Editor
Route 6 Box 444
N. Charleston, S. C.

ATTENTION!!! ALL SOUTH CAROLINA CONGREGATIONS!! Let's get together and make the next issue of the MESSENGER one with news from every church in the Palmetto State. For a report to make the up-coming issue, it should get to me by the 15th of the month. I know that there have been many meetings in the fall and no doubt there have been great results. In the 45 day period from Oct. 1 to Nov. 15, let's see just how many additions to the Lord's kingdom. To do this we will need the co-operation of every church. Just send your report to the address above and I will be happy to put it in the column.

The church in West Columbia just concluded a meeting with Bro. Deuel doing the preaching. I do not know of the results at this moment. Bro. Pluncket recently preached in a meeting for the Georgetown church. I have had no reports as to results. The church in Florence will have Clay Henderson in a meeting the last of this month. A goal of 80 has been set for the first service of this meeting.

Since the last report we have had two baptisms and one restoration here at Durant Ave. in Charleston. One of the persons baptized was the husband of one of our faithful women, thus uniting this family in the Lord. This makes 79 baptisms in the three years plus that I have been here. I have time for one meeting this year and if any congregation wants my services, I will be glad to hear from you. Our next meeting in Charleston will be next April with Olan Hicks as the speaker.

Following are reports as received:

Rock Hill, S. C.
Wm. V. (Bill) Pierce

A meeting closed Sept. 24 in Rock Hill with Perryman Denison of Jacksonville, Fla., doing the preaching and D. C. Trotter conducting the singing. Attendance was good and the interest ran very high. There were no immediate results but the future is very promising. On August 19th, I begin work with the church here. The interest and future in Rock Hill looks very good.

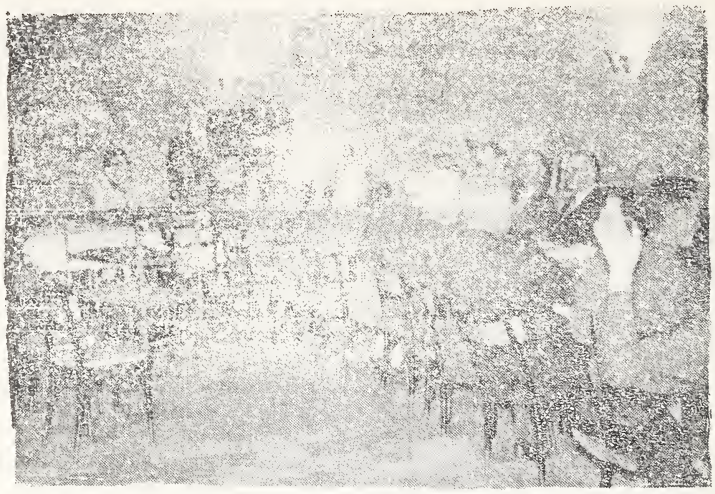
Greenville, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

We had our best attendance during Sept. A new record of 64 was set for the average Sunday morning attendance. We have had one restoration.

The regular monthly singing will be held at Northeast November 11th at 3 p. m.

Aiken, S. C.

Gordon Teffeteller conducted a meeting in Aiken the week of October 1st. Alexander Campbell is the regular preacher.



CHARLOTTE AREA MEN HAVE DINNER MEETING

On September 28, thirty-eight men, members of the churches of Christ in Charlotte, Rock Hill and Gastonia, met for dinner and discussion at the C. & C. cafeteria. All the congregations in the area had been notified of this dinner meeting by mail and the men were invited to attend.

After the meal discussion were heard regarding: (1) the co-operative effort which is underway to place large religious advertisements, written by Walter E. Burch, in the Charlotte Observer. Charlotte's Westside congregation is taking the lead in this work. (2) the "Know-Your-Bible" radio program, which is presented at 9 a.m. each Sunday morning by the Dilworth church on station W. A. Y. S. (3) announcements were made by Byrd Ray Lewis to the effect that the Gastonia church was planning to present a series of lessons on Church Government November 5-9 with a visiting teacher, that brother W. R. Smith, a former Vice-President of Abilene Christian College, was being sought for a Teacher Training Program in the spring of 1963 and that seven of the latest Herald of Truth films are now available in this area and can be secured for local showings by contacting the Gastonia church.

Those present for this gathering had a very enjoyable and profitable evening and requested that another such gathering be planned. The date has been set for Friday, November 16, for the next meeting of this kind.

by: Johnny Sewell

Durham, N. C.
Gordon Teffeteller, Reporting

Very regretably brother Johnny Sewell of Charlotte was unable to come for our meeting due to a very severe throat condition that necessitated his doing no preaching for a few weeks. We were fortunate however to be able to secure the services of Bill Shelton of Raleigh to "pinch-hit!" Brother Shelton did a marvelous job during the meeting and endeared himself to the members by his forthright yet loving presentation of the truth.

During the meeting there were two responses.

Brother Shelton is an excellent preacher with definite convictions and the courage to

Durham, N. C. (cont'd)

voice them. The church here is stronger for his having come. The Raleigh elders were very kind to allow brother Shelton another week away during a quite busy season of the year. We sincerely appreciate it.

In 1963 brother Winford Claiborne of Dalton, Georgia, is scheduled to be here for a meeting. He is presently associated with the Central church in that city.

In 1964 brother Mack Langford of the Valley Forge church near Philadelphia is docketed to conduct a meeting here.

Valdese, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

Our Fall meeting was conducted in Oct., with Bro. Burl Curtis of Greenville, S. C. as guest speaker. Brother Curtis endeared himself to us at the first service with his simple, kind and forceful presentation of Gospel. With each succeeding sermon, our love for him has grown, our lives have been edified, our faith purified, and our Father in Heaven glorified through his preaching. While we had no record crowds, numerically speaking, each service was well-attended by the members here, supported by surrounding congregations, and we welcomed several visitors from this area. Average attendance was 41.

Another class has been added in our Wednesday night Bible study, the students being between the ages of seven and eleven, approximately. Heretofore, several children have had to go into a class below their age level, or in an advanced group. This distinction has been needed for a long time, and we hope this additional class will inspire parents to bring all their children with them on Wednesday nights.

In answer to several inquiries as to why Valdese news has been "conspicuous by its absence" in the Carolina Messenger recently, let me say that your reporter was hospitalized in July with an attack of Aruicular Fibrallation of the heart, and was advised by the doctor to "Slow down." However, almost complete recovery has been enjoyed and we hope no further interruptions will occur to deter any future reports of Valdese-vested vigilance for news, with no violation of verity and certainly not with velation, but with vim plus vision in relating the relativity of Christian liveliness to celestial spirituality so vital to soul-searching twentieth century Christians practicing first century Christianity.

HARDING COLLEGE EXTENSION PROGRAM NOT AVAILABLE

The letter which appears below was recently received from Dr. W. B. West, Jr., Dean of the Harding College Graduate School of Bible and Religion. The letter is self-explanatory. Those who were hoping to enroll in the proposed extension classes are, of course, disappointed that they will not be offered, but at the same time understand the situation presented in brother West's letter. Let us look forward to the time when Christian Education of this type will be a reality in the Carolinas.

"Your much appreciated letter of some weeks ago was forwarded to me in Bible Lands in the Middle East. I wanted to write you from there but was going so rapidly and studying so intensively it seemed I had no opportunity. On returning home I found myself overwhelmed with much work.

I regret that we were not able to offer an extension program in North Carolina this fall. I appreciate the work you did on it and your interest in it. I fear that the distance is too great from Memphis to Charlotte, too making the travel too expensive.

We assure you that we are interested in the work you are doing and our prayers are with you."

Marion, N. C.

Clay Henderson is scheduled to preach in our meeting November 4-11.

Use the family plan. Send the paper to each family in the congregation.

Greenville, N. C.
P. O. Box 565
C. E. Mannon, Reporting

Desiring to keep informed a great brotherhood of believers, we send forth this report of the church now meeting in Greenville, N. C., hopeful that Christians in this area and everywhere shall become more responsive to a great work, labor of love and patience of hope.

BUILDING PROGRAM NEARS COMPLETION! We have launched out in a building program that has made unusual progress at this writing. With Paden Construction Company, of Cleburne, Texas, as the contractor, work began on Labor Day, September 3 and completion is expected on or near November 3. Our building program is being financed by National Plan bonds, the greater part of a $20,000.00 issue now having been sold. With the possibility that some bonds will be available when this you read, we shall be happy to hear from those interested in their purchase. Write immediately. For a job well begun and expected to be well done, we rejoice exceedingly, thank God and take courage in what this building will mean to our efforts in this area. Deep gratitude for Him and those who would do His will.

Averages over the last three months are as follows: Bible Study 35; Morning Worship 39; Evening Worship 25; Midweek 18; Contribution $93.75.

SINGING IN THE AFTERNOON IS SCHEDULED here on Sunday, December 9, at 2:30 for an area fellowship of worship in song. These special services prove most inspiring.

GOSPEL MEETING SERIES PLANNED for December, the date to be arranged with the visiting evangelist. That four gospel preachers and the congregations they represent desire to assist us in our teaching program gives further emphasis to a great cooperative spirit among brethren in advancing the Lord's truth and his kingdom. We are hopeful that next spring or summer will bring a large group of Christians to this area in a concentrated program to teaching Christ's gospel.

Tryon, N. C.

Elton English has resigned the work in Tryon to move to Mississippi where he will be near Harding College in Memphis, Tennessee. He plans to continue his education there. The church in Tryon would like to contact any interested preachers.

Spindale, N. C.

268 attended a singing held recently at Spindale, N. C. Most remarkable was the fact that more than 70 people from the Old Hickory congregation in Tenn. drove over to be present and encourage the small Spindale congregation.

Wilmington, N. C.
Howard Winters, Reporting

Our recent meeting was probably one of the best, if not the best, in the history of the church here. Brother Robert Bryson did some splendid preaching. Very good attendance marked the meeting from beginning to end. And best of all 12 very fine people responded to the invitation. This was a meeting that we will not soon forget. Thank God for his wonderful blessings!

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICES PLANNED

Thanksgiving Day, November 22, a national holiday, has been set as the occasion when brethren and friends from a wide area

--Help us obtain 1,500 new subscriptions--

are being invited to be with us in morning and afternoon services in our new building. Morning services will be at 10:30 A.M. and afternoon services at 2:30 P.M. Different speakers are expected, and we anticipate a wonderful day of fellowship together. While

THANKSGIVING (cont'd)

Christians exalt every day as one of thanksgiving, our thanksgiving of November 22, 1962 will be unusually significant with the blessings of Jehovah surrounding us in a building that is being prepared for Him and those who would do His will.

by: C. E. Mannon

Greenville, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

A series of gospel meetings is planned at Augusta Road November 4-11. Bro. Willard Conchin of Mocksville, N. C. is to do the preaching. Services are to be at 7:30 P. M.

--Give your subscription to any director--

NEW NAME FOR THE PAPER

We are searching for a new name for the paper. Do you have any suggestions? If you will, please give your reason for the name you suggest. This will help the directors when the decision is made for the best name received.

Please send your suggestion to the editor or any staff member. The staff has been appointed to collect your suggestions.

OUR SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE

You know, or should, that we are badly in need of new subscriptions. Additional costs have been incurred in moving to Charlotte and forming the corporation. The improvements in the paper will cost. We do not plan to increase the subscription price of the paper, but we do need to increase the circulation. The directors have assumed the responsibility of financing the publication, so please give them your assistance. (See pages 3 & 16).

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"THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST SALUTE YOU."

Is not the life more than food, and the body more than raiment?

...Matthew 6:25

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- For Teen-agers Only, page 3
- Supported or Supporting, page 4
- Carolina News, page 9

December, 1962 Volume IV, Number 12

EDITORIAL: PROGRESS CYCLE

Burl Curtis
Greenville, S. C.

There is a water cycle and there is a progress cycle.

Early in his science courses, the student is taught that the clouds pour forth rain and snow, this water runs into the rivers and into the seas. Then through a process known as evaporation, the water is carried again to the clouds and the entire cycle is started all over again. This is known as the water cycle.

We believe there is a progress cycle, too. It is started by proper and thorough planning (see last month's editorial) is continued through performance, re-evaluation and improvement and then the progress cycle is started all over again by better planning.

Planning ahead is so very important to the work of the church, but it is practically worthless without performance. Planning without performance is like a ship without an engine. It may be big and attractive and may look very capable. It, no doubt, will inspire "much talk" but it cannot go anywhere. Each congregation, with each member, must give careful attention to working the plan. "Blessed are they that do (perform) his commandments, that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Revelation 22:14.

We have a perfect and complete guide in the Bible but there is always the possibility of human error in both the understanding and the application of it. Therefore, we must re-evaluate. We must learn from our experience and our mistakes. Have you recently re-evaluated your personal life as well as the progress of the church?

The progress cycle is not complete unless you improve. Such Biblical words as add, grow, strong and full-age denote the necessity of improvement. We should be as the preacher who prayed, "Lord, we are not satisfied with what we are, and thou knowest that we are not what we hope to be, but we are thankful that we are not what we once were."

THE VALDESE EXAMPLE

We are happy to comment on the fine sense of responsibility displayed by the church in Valdese, N. C. They plan to become entirely self-supporting by January 1963 and, knowing them, we predict that they will make it, too.

To do this each wage earner must average **$9.37** each week or the average must be **almost $6.00** per member at home.

What would the collections be where you attend if each member averaged $6.00? Some congregations could be entirely self-supporting if each member would increase his contribution just $1.00 per month. Why not accept this challenge?

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS EDITOR.

Bill Shelton of Raleigh, N. C. has accepted the responsibility of North Carolina News Editor. He replaces Noyles E. Sewell of Kinston, N. C. who resigned because of a heavy work load. He writes: "...I am teaching now in the mornings... The teaching load (8 hours per week Electronics,

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

VOLUME IV DECEMBER 1962 NUMBER 12

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FOR TEEN-AGERS ONLY

Rudy Senn
Route 1, Box 283
Duncan, South Carolina

Jerry Senn
Box 53
Moore, South Carolina

(All correspondence regarding the Young People's Page should be sent to one of these addresses).

We believe that the teen-agers in the Carolinas are as fine as any group of teen-agers anywhere! The church is well blessed with great talent among its younger generation. However, we also contend that our young people are being neglected in many places and in many ways. We further believe that the church is losing a great, energetic and useful force for good by so neglecting them.

This page will be used, not to preach to teen-agers, but as a sounding board to set forth what you, the teen-ager, feel to be the answer to any and all problems with which you are troubled. We reserve the right, of course, to insert suggestions and to provide facts and material that may not be available to the average teen-ager. We also wish to set forth ideas as a means of provoking thought and discussion from you. Other than that, however, we wish to make this a real teen-age page.

We want any interested teen-ager in the Carolinas to send in questions, problems, or situations with which you may be troubled. Also, everyone should feel free to send in your ideas in regard to answers to these problems. Of course, you will be expected to give a reason and support your answer with truth. Even though we cannot print all material sent in consideration will be given to every letter.

We believe that the teen-ager of today is faced with serious problems earlier than ever before. There is less respect for God's word and more evil, less home training and more early marriages and divorce, less distinction between good and bad and more immorality, than in previous years. An illustration of this is a report from the U. S. Public Health Service, which indicates that illegitimate births have reached an all time high. The annual total of 176,000 is an increase of 36 percent in 6 years. The mothers of 40 percent of illegitimate babies are teen-agers! In the face of these and other problems, important decisions are demanded of our young people. The shield of protective ignorance has been lifted by our fast moving society.

Young people must be told the truth at an early age because of the vast amount of false information they receive in their formative years. We can no longer afford to wait until the so called "proper age" because young people are being flooded by T. V., radio, movies, newspapers, magazines and friends with the wrong kind of information on every subject under the sun. Even school subjects are slanted, in many cases, to lead the students away from God and the Bible.

The trend in the activities of modern youth, at least in some circles, rivals the orgy of the Hollywood party. In fact, many feel that they are not modern unless their activities stack up favorably with what is being done "everywhere."

The youth of our nation have a bad reputation in countries throughout the world. Activities that go on unnoticed and unchallenged in our country are being banned in many European states. How long will teen-agers who do not believe and take part in these activities be blackmailed into silence just for the sake of popularity? If Christian teen-agers refuse to take a real stand on Christian principles, who will? The charge of "chicken," "sissy," "narrowminded," and "hypocrite" have silenced any opposition to the modern

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SUPPORTED OR SUPPORTING

Billy R. Davidson
North Charleston, S. C.

For many years, brethren, who were interested in getting a church established in a certain place, have gone to the big church of Texas and Tennessee and possibly other places to ask for support. In a mission area such as we have in the Carolinas, this has been good. I know that many brethren are supported by other congregations outside our states. We give thanks for brethren who will help us because without such help, where would we be? But while this is good, I am fearful that we might rely on these "big churches" too long. It is my firm conviction that we need to be supporting instead of being supported. I am sure that other brethren share this same conviction, but what are we doing about it? It was recently my privilege to preach in a meeting at Radford, Va. To me, here is a classic example of just what I am talking about. Permit me to tell you the interesting story about the good work being done by the church in this part of Virginia.

It goes back to the establishment of the church in Christiansburg, Va., some fifteen years ago. These brethren built and paid for their own building and then started planning other efforts. A building fund was started. During the next ten years the church grew because they were working. About six years ago, the brethren at Christiansburg went over to Radford, bought a lot, built a very nice building and thus established the church in another city. The Broad St. church in Cookeville, Tennessee sent Bro. R. C. Walker to Radford to work with the church. Bro. Walker told the elders in Cookeville that he wanted support for five years. At the end of that five year period the church in Radford would support their own man. That five year period will end on Dec. 31, 1962. At that time this church in Radford will take up his support. In the last five years the church in Radford has used all its money to pay off their building and thus be free of debt, that is, by January 1, 1963.

You may ask, "HOW?" The answer is found in the word WORK. They made plans for at least five years in advance. They then worked toward the fulfilling of such plans. It was not a "hope to" job but rather one in which they said, "We will with God's help." This should serve as a great example for all of us. They put their trust in the Lord and their shoulders to the task. Meanwhile, the Christiansburg brethren have not been sitting back resting on past accomplishments. They began planning another work, and just this past summer built a new building and established the church in Blacksburg, Va.

The churches in the Carolinas can and must do the same thing. We need to get together and make long range plans in this effect and then work the plans. In most of the business meetings that this writer has attended, brethren, generally speaking, make no real plans for the future of the church. They decide whether or not to paint the building, or to fix the roof and any number of other things that amount to very little. We then dismiss the meeting without really discussing the future work and growth of the church. What or where is the answer? There are several things that must be done if the church is to grow as it should.

1. We must put the kingdom of God first in our lives. Jesus said while on earth that we should"... seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness..." Brethren, are we doing that? Are we putting the kingdom of God first when we tie ourselves to a TV set and refuse to visit the sick, the erring and the newcomers to the service? Are we putting the kingdom of God first when we refuse to meet with the saints to worship and study and better prepare ourselves for service? The an-

(See page 5)

swer is a loud, resounding, emphatic NO. The Lord and his church must come first or we will never be self-supporting. If the Lord is not first in our lives then the world is. Jesus said, "No man can serve two masters for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." It seems that far too many brethren are trying to have this divided loyalty. This is one reason why so many are supported instead of supporting.

2. We must give liberally to the Lord. I know that brethren don't like the subject but still much is said about it in the New Testament, and it is a command that is to be obeyed just as much as the command to be baptized. We have brethren who build or buy the large expensive house and obligate themselves for twenty or thirty years with a large monthly payment. Then go out and buy that big expensive automobile with a large payment each month for two or three years. In short, we obligate ourselves for years ahead for what We want, without any thought to what the Lord wants. Paul commended the brethren of Macedonia for their giving. But he says that they "first gave their own selves to the Lord." (II Cor. 8:5). We, unlike these brethren, are selfish. We take all we want and give then what is left to the Lord. Let me ask a question of every reader. How many of you have purposed or budgeted a certain amount of your income for the Lord? You do for groceries, house payment or rent, car, TV set, etc., why not for the Lord?

3. We need to be truly converted to the Lord. I heard a preacher say once that he would rather have fifty converted, dedicated Christians than five hundred who were not. WHY? Simply because that fifty will do much more than the five hundred who are just "church-goers." We ask the Lord to bless our efforts, but what efforts? We sing, "We'll work 'till Jesus comes," but then go home and do nothing. We tell the preacher that "I really enjoyed that lesson," but then make no application of it. We will say, "We hope to be self-supporting soon," but make no plans in that direction. What does it all add up to? Unconverted and not dedicated!

Let us give thanks for the "big churches" and the help they have given through the years. Without them the church would hardly be known in this area. But let's not tie them to us for so long. If we will put Christ and His kingdom first, give liberally to finance the work, and put forth a dedicated effort, we will be not only self-supporting but supporting others. We must use what we have and not rely upon others for so long. The quicker we get away from being supported to the supporting of others the better.

SOCIAL SECURITY

By: Frank Milton, Albemarle, N. C.

Social Security has been a problem of great concern almost from the beginning of time.

We often think of Social Security as a card with a number, and a name, which will enable the person designated to draw a certain pension at age 62, or 65, or at such time as the person may become disabled. However, Social Security should mean a great deal more than this.

CAN MEN HAVE SOCIAL SECURITY INDEPENDENT OF GOD?

In every age there have been those who feel socially secure and independent of God. This security has been based upon a multitude of different conditions and relations. Generally there are three methods of social security that have been tried by men. They are: Social and economic security for a given race; The class system; and the party system. A good example of the race system is the Hebrews, or Jewish nation. They are not alone in placing a hedge around a specific race for security and welfare. Other rac-

(see page 6)

es also exercise social and economic security for their people. The apostle Peter was reminded, in a vision, (Acts 10) that he should not "call any man common or unclean." And when he stood before the household of the gentile Cornelius he said, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respector of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him." Thus, any plan which, if for a race only, is condemned by God and cannot have the blessings of his security.

But there is also the Class System of Social Security. This often involves a difference between the rich and the poor. It is usually based upon a material status. It does not respect race, creed, or religion. A good example of this system is found in the 16th chapter of Luke. There was a "rich man who fared sumptuously every day and a poor begger who laid daily at his gate desiring to be fed by the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table." Obviously, this man had a materialistic security which made him feel independent of all others not in his class. We also learn from this story he thought himself independent of God. Those who regard materials as a basis for Social Security find themselves in a common boundary. This is an age old system of society, which very often is independent of God. Sometimes it even comes into the church to jeopardize and frustrate the fellowship of citizens of the kingdom of heaven. A very stern warning is given by James in Jas. 2:1-4. "My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ,.... with respect of persons..." Also the church in Corinth had become polutted by this system. (I Cor. 11:19-22).

In addition to the Race and Class System, there is also the Party System. It differs from the othere in that it does not respect race, material status, or culture. It is primarily based upon membership. Very often, in this system, moral and spiritual standards are not considered. Most clubs lodges, and denominations operate on this system. It is purely a matter of membership, and an adherence to the rules of the organization.

CHRISTIANITY OFFERS SECURITY: SOCIAL, SPIRITUAL, AND PHYSICAL: FOR TIME AND ETERNITY

From the city and tower of Babel to the modern methods of Social Security, man has never been able to offer a perfect system. But God is concerned with our security. He knows even the number of hairs on our head! (Matthew 10:30).

The first sermon preached by Jesus was concerned with social and physical welfare of his disciples. He touched the very heart of the basic problem of all time when he said, "Be not therefore anxious, saying, what shall we drink or, wherewithal shall we be clothed, for after all these things do the Gentiles seek; for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things." (Matt. 6:31, 32). God knows and cares for his creatures. All the basic needs of man are guaranteed by the creator. No security can be greater than this. But notice what this security includes. "Verily I say unto you, there is no man that hath left houses, or brethren, or sisters, or mother, or father, or children, or lands, for my sake, and for the gospel's sake, but he shall receive a hundredfold now in this time,... and in the world to come eternal life." Mark 10:29, 30. All worry, anxiety and frustration, which are the chief blights of man, are exchanged for security. God's system does not guarantee the elimination of all troubles and strife, but he does promise the greatest security and happiness that is possible to man. "In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:4-7 (A. S. V.)

This is security, social, physical and eternal! It is not for a race, or a club or

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FOR TEEN-AGERS ONLY (cont'd)

dance, lewd movies and petting. It is time we awoke to the opportunity and responsibility of being Christians. Are you being blackmailed? Have you sacrificed Christian principles in order to be liked by the majority? We believe that if you determine to take a stand you will find that there are many others with similar feelings who will follow you in doing what is right.

* *

In order for this plan to work we must have the support of every teen-ager. This can be a real success only if you make it so. It is for your benefit. It is your page! Let's really use it!!!

* *

SOCIAL SECURITY (cont'd)

a materialistic class. It is for those who have faith in the divine creator, accept his offer, and obey his commands. "Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. It is for those willing to sacrifice and serve. Lk. 17:33. This security requires membership, not in a club or man-made society but in the church of Christ. Gal. 3:27; Eph. 1:3. The offer for such security is nearly 2,000 years old, but few have enjoyed the supreme and peculiar benefits of its blessings.

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Please add 3% N. C. Sales Tax to your subscription payments.

Richard Eppley
Business Manager

N. C. NEWS EDITOR (cont'd)

2 hours Speed Reading) has me burdened down, my radio work (daily at 9:30 on tape, weekly 30 minutes live) etc. etc. -I must resign my work as News Editor, please select, elect, or assign someone to this duty at the Charlotte meeting if possible."

For a number of reasons, it was not possible to name his successor until recently, thus the delay in comment until now. We are happy to be associated with Bill Shelton in this work. We, also, would like to express appreciation to Noyles E. Sewell for his work as N. C. News Editor.

Letter from Bill Shelton

Dear Friends of The Carolina Messenger,

I sincerely appreciate the request that has been made me to serve as Editor of North Carolina news for The Carolina Messenger of Truth. It is with pleasure that I accept this responsibility. I trust that my work with the other members of the Messenger staff will be effective in bringing about a better news medium.

Upon accepting this job, I earnestly solicit the assistance of the preachers and leaders of every congregation of God's people in this state. Without co-operation from you, there is no hope for my job to be effective. There are many preachers from this state that I have not met and many congregations that I know very little about. In the coming months I hope to meet each of you and learn first-hand of your work for the Lord. In the meantime will you please help me and The Messenger by placing my name on the mailing for your bulletins, and resolve to send a regular monthly report to me regarding The Work in your area.

Sincerely,

Bill Shelton
Box 5424
Raleigh, N. C.

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CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, N. C. *News Editor*

BILLY DAVIDSON, S. C. *News Editor*

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS
Bill Shelton, editor
Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

The news from the Tar-heel state for this month is news that truly shows vision and determination on the part of Christians to spread the boundaries of God's kingdom.

On November 4th, a new congregation (in fact the first congregation) began meeting in Henderson, N. C. This group, under the oversight of the elders in Raleigh, is meeting at the West End Grammar School on Chestnut Street in Henderson. Bro. Emol Fails of the Raleigh congregation is doing the preaching for November. These Christians are presently meeting at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. with plans to begin a Bible Study program in December. Advertisements have been placed in the Oxford, Henderson and Louisburg papers giving the time and place of meeting. Preaching for the morning services during December will be done by preachers of established congregations in the area. Jesse Melton of Wilson, Gordon Teffeteller of Durham, Joe Costilow of Rocky Mount and Bill Shelton of Raleigh will each take a Sunday during December.

The elders at Raleigh request that names and addresses of Christians in the Henderson area be sent to them so that they may be contacted regarding this work.

There is much good news from the Charlotte area. The Plaza announces the appointment of one additional elder and two additional deacons. On October 28, Bro. Charles W. Fetters was made an elder and Brothers Frank De Jarnatt and Ross Lowthorpe were named as deacons. On November 25, Paul Kidwell of Corinth, Miss. will speak at The Plaza and talk with the elders regarding work with that congregation. We would be fortunate indeed to have Paul start working in North Carolina.

Bro. C. W. Bradley of Winston-Salem N. C. held a weeks meeting at the Dilworth congregation in Charlotte during the month of November. Attendance was excellent according to reports received.

Congregations in the Charlotte area have undertaken a very interesting and effective advertising project. The arrangements have been made through the Birch Advertising Co. of Abilene, Texas and plans call for a three quarter-page ad regarding the Church of Christ to be run each month in the Charlotte Observer. The first ad was run this month (Nov.) and paid for by the Westside congregation. Reports from Charlotte make known that committments have been made by six congregations to sponsor ads for one month.

Durham reports that a number of Christians working there are stating what they want most is TO GET THE PROGRAM OF THAT CHURCH MOVING. Three imperative steps have been listed by Bro. Teffeteller: (1) A dissatisfaction with the status quo., (2) Each person doing one person's work (his own) and (3). A counting of the cost and assuming a rightful share of sharing. Our prayers are with these brethren as they work for these principles.

Four men have been placed before the Raleigh congregation and will be installed as deacons on December 2. They are: Jim Ogburn, James Rosier, Ed Woodhouse and Wilburn Greenhaw. The appointment of these men will give Raleigh eight deacons and two elders, - a fine working force.

A quarterly report from Bro. C. E. Mannon, preacher for the church in Greenville, N. C., brings the good news that they are now meeting in their new building. The congregation at Greenville has invited Christians from this area to join with them in two services in their new building on Nov-

ember 23. The congregation at Greenville has undergone tremendous growth in recent months. We rejoice with them in their growth and vision.

Conversation with Bro. Jesse Melton reveals the good news that final payment has been made on the building site in Wilson and negotiations are underway to obtain finances to begin a building.

CHARLOTTE, N.C.
Westside Church of Christ
Johnny C. Sewell, reporting

November 11 brought to a successful conclusion an attendance drive for the Westside congregation. It was hoped that at least 120 would assemble for Bible classes on that day. The number on hand was 122 which set a new attendance record for the regular services of this church.

During September and October the local contribution averaged $217.28 per week. The Sunday Bible classes attendance averaged 93, morning worship averaged 95, evening worship averaged 58 and the midweek attendance averaged 62 during this period.

On Friday evening, November 16, thirty men from the congregations in Charlotte, Rock Hill and Gastonia met for dinner and general discussion. This was the second gathering of this kind in recent weeks.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, Reporting

The year of 1963 is very important to the Valdese church because we expect to be self-supporting at the beginning of the year. In order to do this, we must average at least $150.00 per week in contributions. This means that a congregation of 32 members (6 of which are in college etc.) with only 16 wage earners, 7 of which are women, will carry this budget of $150.00 per week. We have the faith, the will and the determination to do this. We can, we will, we must SO WE SHALL!

Our minister, Bill G. Smith, has just completed conducting a meeting in Anderson S.C. There were three restorations, and attendance was reported as the best of any recent meeting.

The work of the local church is to be divided and allocated to different members, so as to give more people a chance to have an active part in the work of the Lord here. On account of her health, Madeline C. Brown will not be the editor of the church bulletin (at least for a time) and the minister, Bill G. Smith, is taking over this work. However, Sister Brown will continue to report the news to the Carolina Messenger, and will also report news to the local paper. Other phases of the work will be decided on at the next business meeting.

The Bible teachers at this time are: Sunday morning, M. E. Burns, Bill G. Smith, Worth Burns, Mary Burns, Margarete Brown and Madeline C. Brown; Wednesday night, M. E. Burns, Bill G. Smith, Kay Smith and Betty Liddick.

WARNING

For several months now a Mr. Gary McCurry has been working in the Charlotte, Rockingham, Mineral Springs, Statesville, Kannapolis areas as a magazine salesman. In Charlotte he worked among the Westside membership claiming to have been a resident at the Tennessee Orphan Home and saying that he was earning money to go to Lipscomb. Of course, this plea received a ready response on the part of the members here, but questions began to arise in the minds of several as to the truth of his story. The same uncertainty has been reported by Brother Joel Plunket, regarding McCurry's work in Mineral Springs. McCurry resides in Gastonia, but the Gastonia church does not know him. In answer to a request for information, brother W. B. Richter, Superintendant of the Tennessee Orphan Home, said: "I am glad that you wrote to us concerning Mr. Gary McCurry. We have no record of Gary McCurry ever having been in the Tennessee Orphan Home, so if he is representing himself as being a former res-

WARNING (cont'd)

ident of Tennessee Orphan Home, he is not giving out the truth. I am very sorry to say that this has been done many times in the past. I have even had to have notices put in the papers, also announced over the radio trying to prevent this ugly practice. We would appreciate it if you would let it be known in that community that Gary McCurry is not from this Home, nor is he representing this home in any manner." Members of the church are advised to confront Mr. McCurry with information of this type should he call into their area.

BOONE, N. C.

Orlan L. Sawey is now preaching for the church in Boone, N. C. He is also professor of English Literature at Appalachian State Teacher's College.

HEAR A "MACEDONIAN CALL"!

W. J. (Bill) Perkins

Here is a worthy appeal for "help" being made by the congregation at Lexington, N. C. An urgent need of at least $100 PER MONTH must be met before the end of the year. On September 5, Walter E. Neal and his wife moved to Lexington to replace Clayton Winters who moved back to Tennessee to continue his education. Bro. Neal is an experienced preacher and personal worker, interested in mission work. He is receiving $75 per week plus a house without utilities. He has been notified that a congregation who has been sending $100 per month to help the work will not be able to continue it after December. The congregation, with its outside help, currently is meeting payments of $140 per month on property, including the meeting house and the preachers home, plus utilities on the meeting house. The work here has been hurt recently by several families moving from the state. However, there are good prospects for the work to grow. This winter has just concluded an eight day meeting, Sept. 23-30, with 1 baptism and 2 resotrations. The attendance was usually 45 or over with a high of 54. On a very rainy Wednesday, when other congregations could not attend, there were 28 present. This is a splendid record for the congregation had been reduced to only 13 members when the meeting began. Several unfaithful members started attending during the meeting. There is hope that these will soon be restored. Also from the list of non-members visiting one or more times during the meeting, there are over a dozen good prospects. Bro. Neal is a fine preacher and a hard worker. He, as well as the congregation, deserves the needed $100 replacement support for his income. The church just recently has had the expense of some repairs on the preacher's home and moving Bro. Neal to N. C. Is there not a congregation willing and able to pick up the $100 monthly support which will soon be dropped from this worthy mission area? Please take it up with the church you attend, then write or call: Church of Christ, 16 Oak Avenue, Lexington, N. C. Phone 243-2233. Preacher, Walter E. Neal.

LEXINGTON, N. C.
Walter E. Neal, reporting

I moved here September 5, from Albany, Kentucky. At that time there were 13 members. Since then, three families have begun driving in to worship with us. The attendance and contribution is growing. Last Lord's day we had 49 for morning worship, 29 for the evening worship and the collection was $70.35. The greatest interest is being manifested of any place I have ever worked. Pray for us and come to see us when you can.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C.
North Main St. congregation
Carmen Walker, reporting

A gospel meeting was held at the North Main Street church of Christ the week of September 30 through October 7. Brother J. B. Whitaker from Rockingham, North Carolina, was the speaker each evening, and many good lessons were presented. We

MOCKSVILLE, N. C. (cont'd)

enjoyed good attendance throughout the week with visitors from the community and from other congregations, and some traveled as far as 100 miles to be with us.

Although there were no responses to the invitation during the meeting we feel much good was accomplished by the edification of members and knowing that many heard the gospel for the first time.

On Sunday afternoon, September 30, an hour of singing was enjoyed at the North Main Street church. We had many visitors for this also.

Recently we have had one brother express his desire to worship with our congregation having formerly worshipped with the Corinth church of Christ. We are glad to have him and feel that his work with us will be beneficial to all.

WOODLEAF, N. C.
Corinth congregation
Ottis L. Qualls, reporting

Work on our new building is underway once more having been stopped some time ago due to the lack of funds. We hope to avoid having to meet in the old building this winter if at all possible.

Brother J. B. Whitaker of the Rockingham congregation has been invited to conduct our meeting next summer. I was in Florida September for two gospel meetings. I would like to hear from any preacher in the Carolinas who would be interested in an exchange meeting next year. This would afford the congregation here two meetings instead of just one.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Howard Winters, reporting

October has been the best month for us in the history of the Wilmington church. Following are some of our accomplishments: 1. We had a great gospel meeting with Robert Bryson from Chattanooga, Tennessee, doing the preaching. 2. Twelve responded to the Lord's invitation during the meeting-eight baptisms and four restorations. 3. Fellowship was restored with the church at Carolina Beach--thus marking the beginning, as far as recognition is concerned, of a new congregation in North Carolina. 4. One more was baptized after the meeting, bringing our total for the month up to nine. 5. A new family who are members of the church moved to Wilmington--this puts us another step forward. 6. Attendance has been good--averaged around 55 per week. 7. The contribution averaged $101.50 per week. This simply means that we averaged more than $4 per week per member. Not many churches can make that statement. 8. A great amount of spiritual growth is also evident, peace and harmony prevails, and the church has a mind to move forward. Brethren, THE CHURCH IN WILMINGTON IS ON ITS WAY UP.

CONCORD, N. C.
H. Ernest Shoaf, reporting

We began our work with the church in Concord, North Carolina last Sunday. There are thirty members that seem to be sound in faith, and are willing to work for the cause of Christ. They are planning to build a new church building right away. The attendance for worship Sunday morning was twenty-seven, with twenty out for the evening service. The contribution was $51.00. We are looking forward to a profitable work with the church here.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Charles S. Chandler, reporting

The church in Gastonia plans a Gospel Meeting December 2--7, 7:30 P. M. (except Sunday at 11:00 A. M. and 6:00 P. M.) with Charles E. McDonald of Greenville, Alabama, preaching. Brother McDonald, a native of Alabama, has spent several years preaching in the "mission" area of the Northeast.

In addition to the Meeting, a special "Preachers Family" dinner is planned for 5:30 P. M., Friday, December 7th as the classroom annex next door to the church building 510 Union Road.

---Support the Messenger!!!---

STATESVILLE, N. C.

Harold Scott, preacher for the Broad St. church in Statesville, will leave for New Zealand around January 1 to participate in an extensive one-month personal work campaign. We commend the vision of the Statesville church in sending Bro. Scott to help in this mission effort overseas and we pray God's blessings on him and the work that will be done in New Zealand.

KINSTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, reporting

Kinston's Bible school goal is now 100. We expect to be able to report next month that the goal is 110 due to having met the 100 goal. We had 78, 81 and 89 in Bible study during October and there is no reason why we should not soon reach 100. We now have 8 Bible classes in progress. We are planning for another fine meeting in February, 1963, with Jim Bill McInteer.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Westside (from the bulletin)

The members of the Westside church were much encouraged Sunday morning, November 11, when 122 persons assembled for Sunday school classes. For the past few weeks our efforts had, in a large measure, been directed toward having at least 120 present. The members visited, made telephone calls, prayed to the Lord asking his help in this undertaking, made posters for the classrooms... The members are to be commended for their enthusiastic hard work and the Lord is to be thanked for giving the increase.

VALDESE, N. C.
Bill Smith, reporting

CHURCHES THAT NEED PREACHERS

If you are interested, please contact me for full address and other information. (Write: Bill G. Smith, Box 72, Valdese, N. C.)

Anderson, S. C. (not self-supporting).
Columbia, S. C., Park St.
Greenville, S. C., Poinsett Highway
Greenwood, S. C. (not self-supporting).
Seneca, S. C. (after June 1963, not self-supporting).
Bryson City, N. C. (not self-supporting).
Charlotte, N. C., Plaza
Hickory, N. C. (after February 1, 1963).
Lenoir, N. C. (not self-supporting).
Mocksville, N. C., Jericho
Salisbury, N. C.
Statesville, N. C., Abilene (after Jan. 1).
Tryon, N. C.
Florence, S. C. (after Jan. 16, 1963).

DURHAM, N. C.
Gordon Teffeteller, reporting

At the November business meeting it was unanimously agreed to drop the remaining $50.00 monthly support from the Comer Fund. The church will now be fully self-supporting. We appreciate the wonderful financial aid given by various churches and the Fund during the past years but feel that we are in a position to assume our own responsibility fully---and even to begin helping others very soon.

After three weeks of November we are ahead of any other month of the church's history in the matter of giving. Here is the way we stand after three Sundays:

Nov. 4 -- $232
Nov. 11 -- $183 **Average -- $216**
Nov. 18 -- $232

NEWS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA
Billy R. Davidson, editor
Route 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

Bro. Clay Henderson of Hickory, N. C. recently conducted a meeting with the church in Florence. It was this writers pleasant experience to hear one of the fine lessons he presented. There were no responses to the invitation. Since I have learned, with regret, that Bro. Moss, the preacher at Florence, has resigned effective date Jan. 16. He plans to move to Ft. Lauderdale,

Fla. We hate to see him leave, but do wish him the success that he so richly deserves.

The Riverside Park church in Charleston now has a new preacher. Bro. Clifford Shaver began his work here on November 11. He moved here from Cloverdale, Indiana. We look forward to pleasant association and work with him.

1963 CAROLINA LECTURES

The following timetable has been submitted by the church in Union, S. C., the place of the 1963 Lectures.

January 1 -Letters and cards will be sent to all churches. This letter will include such information as location of building, what meals and lodging will be furnished by the church in Union and a request for each preacher to notify the church in Union as to whether or not he can attend.

February 10 -Deadline for acceptance of requested information.

March 1 -Program sent out.

April 1 - Lectures.

GREENVILLE, SC.
Edgewood congregation
Ernest Thigpen, reporting

We enjoyed a very fine meeting last month with Bro. W. G. Gantt of West Columbia, S. C. doing the preaching. The attendance and interest were good, and we consider the meeting one of the best we have had in a good while. Bro. Gantt did a very good job of preaching the truth. He also showed a real interest in doing personal work among the lost and the erring. Recently, we have had ten responses to the invitation of Christ. Four of these were during the meeting. Our giving was up some last month. We averaged $226.37 per week. Pray for us and visit us when you can.
-Please, do not use the old Easley address-

FLORENCE, S. C.
Royster E. Moss, reporting

Our recent gospel meeting with brother Clay Henderson of Hickory, N. C. brought many fine lessons our way. We appreciate brother Henderson's work during the week with this congregation. Not only did he have a busy schedule with the lessons presented and the visiting done, but he conducted six radio programs for the "Devotionals" and our weekly program on Thursday.

MOSSES LEAVE FLORENCE JANUARY 16

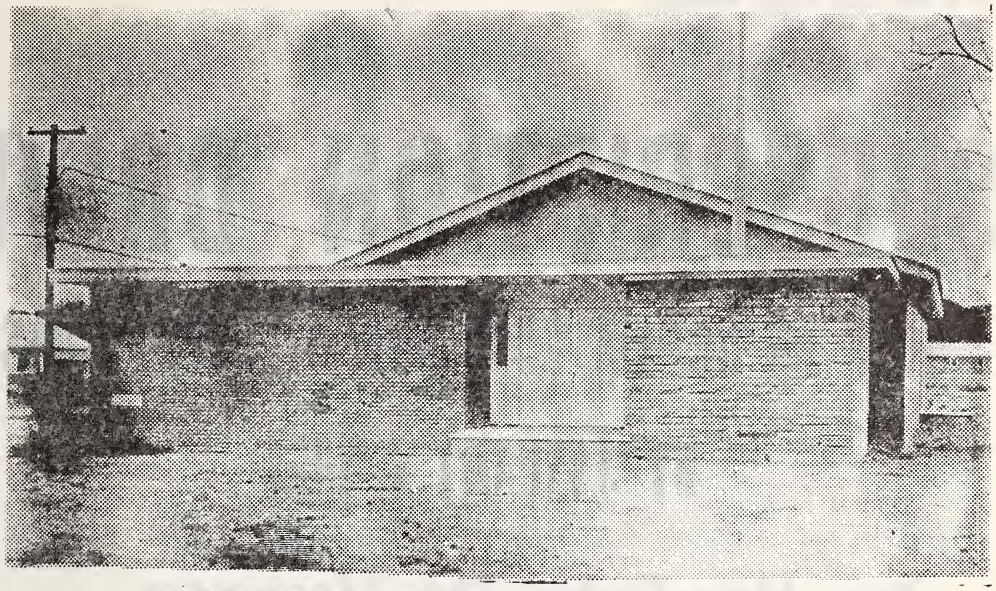
We have been asked to work with the congregation at Lauderdale Manors in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and after much consideration, we told the elders at Lauderdale Manors we would accept the work. We had been considering other work in the Carolinas, but the work we have decided to take up is indeed a great challenge. We have many fond memories of our stay in Florence and the Carolinas. We pray God's blessings on each of you in the work here.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road congregation
Carl Lancaster, reporting

Willard Conchin preached the gospel very effectively in a meeting that closed here November 11th. In recent weeks three have been baptized and four restored (three of these were during the meeting).

Work continues on our basement class rooms. Most of the painting and installing of ceilings has been finished. The major project that is yet to be completed is installing tile on the floor. A goal of $500 was set for contribution for November 4th to obtain funds for the tile. $542 was given that Sunday, breaking all previous records for this congregation. The congregation has not only given extra funds to finish the class rooms but also continues to give hours of labor week after week in doing this good work.

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NEW BUILDING AT GREENVILLE, N. C.

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